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Celebrity Buzz

Kiefer charged with assault

pg 35

UFV exam delayed after possible threat

PRECAUTION An exam at the University of the Fraser Valley was postponed Thursday after police were told of a possible threat to the school.

According to the RCMP, a third party reported that a student said, "If I fail the exam tomorrow, I'm going to kill everyone like Columbine."

The threat was received on Wednesday night.

As a precaution, UFV officials delayed the exam, which was scheduled for the Trades and Technology Centre.

The student who allegedly made the comment was eventually found. He's a 21-year-old man from Chilliwack.

Through an investigation, police have determined there was no intention by the man to act on the threat, according to RCMP Const. Lea-Anne Dunlop.

KELSEA BLOXAM/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Heartbreaker Canucks drop it in OT

JEFF HAYNES/REUTERS

Chicago Blackhawk Andrew Ladd celebrates after scoring the overtime winner as Vancouver Canuck Henrik Sedin skates away in Game 4 of their NHL Western conference semifinal hockey game last night in Chicago. The 2-1 win for Chicago evened the series at 2-2. Coverage, pg 18

Bike trial gets OK

Burrard bridge test for safety

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

One lane of the Burrard Street Bridge is being converted into a bicycle-only path as part of a $1.45-million trial to improve cyclist and pedestrian safety while gathering data on how removing a lane will impact transit and drivers.

The trial, which was approved Thursday afternoon in council, would see the westernmost curb lane (heading from downtown into Kitsilano) converted into a bike lane.

Cyclists heading into downtown would have exclusive use of the east sidewalk while all pedestrians would share the west sidewalk.

"We kowtowed to (the) car and said, 'the car is more important than cyclists or pedestrians,'" said COPE Coun. David Cadman, who along with Coun. Ellen Woodsworth supported reallocating two traffic lanes to bicycles.

Twenty people shared their views with council. All but two were in favour of converting two traffic lanes. Some cycling advocates shouted their disapproval when it was decided that only one lane would be converted.

"This says to pedestrians 'move over' and to cyclists 'satisfy yourself with a little more space on the east side,'" said Cadman.

Mayor Gregor Robertson said the decision was not easy, but was important to address safety for everyone crossing the bridge.

"This has to happen urgently," said Robertson. "Waiting for another year or two for sidewalk expansion is not reasonable nor appropriate and doesn't make people safe in the meantime."

Data from the trial would be used in any future decision to upgrade the bridge, which could include widening the bridge deck at a cost of roughly $63 million.

Past attempt

- A similar six-month trial in 1996 was dropped after one week due to commuter uproar.

Political endorsement gets transit worker sent home

RALLY A transit employee was sent home and is facing an investigation after endorsing B.C. NDP Leader Carole James over the loudspeaker at Broadway SkyTrain Station on Thursday morning.

The employee, who has not been identified, announced, "Carole James rocks" followed by a negative remark about Premier Gordon Campbell at a rally for James.

Doug Kelsey, CEO of B.C. Rapid Transit — which operates SkyTrain for TransLink — said the employee's actions were being investigated.

Kelsey told CBC News the staff member went beyond the scope of his or her position to make personal statements, which was unprofessional. He went on to say the employee was sent home and will be dealt with accordingly.

Janet Szliske, a spokesperson for CUPE B.C., told Metro Vancouver the union wasn't in a position to comment about the incident.

"There's an investigation underway and no one is able to comment until the result of the investigation goes through," she said.

METRO VANCOUVER

Music pg 29

Bif Naked makes Promise

Television pg 30

B.C.'s Arthur up for Leo

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Team's new name under wraps

Abbotsford's new AHL team – formerly the Flames – has been renamed, but the details are being kept secret. The public was invited to submit suggestions, which were whittled down to the Heat, Flames, Ice Hawks and Storm. Fans who guess correctly will be entered to win a pair of season tickets. NEWS1130.COM

Local

Zoo still looking for monkey

It has been one year since Mia the spider monkey was stolen and her companion Jocko was killed during a break-in at the Greater Vancouver Zoo in Aldergrove. The zoo said it has enhanced its security and hasn't given up hope the monkey will be found. METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

VOYEUR A North Vancouver woman reported a "peeping Tom" Thursday morning outside her home. RCMP received the call in the early hours of the morning, and the woman said she had seen a man acting inappropriately outside her ground-floor window.

CHURCH The West End's century-old St. John's United Church is for sale for $4.5 million, news1130.com reports.

POLL The B.C. Liberals, at 47 per cent support, hold a nine point lead over the NDP, which has 38 per cent support, in the run-up to Tuesday's provincial election, according to a Mustel Research Group poll released on Thursday. METRO VANCOUVER

Monday's Metro

Take Five

Introducing Metro's new horoscope columnist Sally Brompton.

metronews.ca

What's online today.

Video A Quebec convenience store chain stands by an ad campaign featuring violent deaths of clowns at **metronews.ca/canada**

Blogs Sexcetera asks where you draw the "squirm" line for what's appropriate office talk

Berm contains oil spill

200,000 litres of crude prevented from running into Burrard Inlet

JEFF HODSON
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A lined containment berm prevented 200,000 litres of crude oil from spilling into Burrard Inlet following a spill at a storage tank on Burnaby Mountain.

A third-party contractor was working at Kinder Morgan's Burnaby terminal at 10 p.m. Wednesday when an "equipment malfunction" spilled crude oil into a lined, secondary containment dike.

"No product escaped from the site," said Andrew Galarnyk, Kinder Morgan's director of external relations.

"There was a pump that the contractor had connected to our tank. It might have been the piping from his pump that failed.

"In no uncertain terms was it a flaw or any kind of leak from our tank."

The Burnaby terminal stores crude oil and refined oil products that are brought in by pipeline before being sent to local refinerys or tanked to other locations.

2007 mishap

- In 2007, an excavator ruptured the Kinder Morgan pipeline near Barnet Highway and Hastings Street spraying oil into the air for almost half an hour.

First responders and community officials were called as crude was drained from the tank to stop the spill.

Kinder Morgan is monitoring air quality because of the strong odour of crude oil. Firefighters even sprayed foam onto the spill to negate the fumes.

Galarnyk said he expects cleanup to be completed on Friday as pumper trucks move the recovered oil to a different tank.

Gallery celebrates golden age of Dutch art

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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PAINTINGS Hockey is the second most interesting thing happening in Vancouver this weekend, according to one of the curators of a Dutch art exhibit debuting at the VAG.

Sunday marks the opening of Vermeer, Rembrandt and the Golden Age of Dutch Art — an event so significant it trumps the Canucks series, says Pieter Roelofs, curator of 17th Century Art at Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum.

The exhibit features 128 works from masters such as Hals, Rembrandt and Vermeer — the latter of whom only has 36 known paintings in the world. Four of Vermeer's paintings are at the Rijksmuseum.

One of the four is travelling to Vancouver for the show.

Even the Dutch Royal family acknowledged the significance of the exhibit, with two members arriving on Saturday to kick off the event.

Princess Marilène and Prince Maurits van Oranje-Nassau, van Vollenhoven will be honoured on Saturday at the Dutch Masters Ball. The family made headlines last week when a man plowed through a crowd celebrating Queen's Day in Apeldoorn, The Netherlands, killing himself and six others in an attempt to hit the royal family.

Wim Pijbes, director of the Rijksmuseum, said the works in the exhibit come from a time when the Dutch Republic lead the world in art, science and maritime exploration.

"This … era of creativity is represented by the works on display," he said.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Pieter Roelofs, curator of 17th Century Art at Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum, speaks at the VAG on Thursday.

The show

- Vermeer, Rembrandt and the Golden Age of Dutch Art runs until Sept. 13.

City borrowing for 2010 building

VILLAGE Vancouver is borrowing $150 million from its line of credit and will issue debentures of $150 million to cover Olympic Village development costs, moves city council approved Thursday.

Last month, the city agreed to a $550-million credit agreement with a syndicate of Canadian banks led by TD Bank.

City Manager Penny Ballem said the deal was the largest financial arrangement in the city's history.

Mayor Gregor Robertson commended Ballem and Ken Bayne, the city's director of financial planning, for taking the city through a "remarkable challenge, unprecedented for the city." METRO VANCOUVER

Bay store to host Olympic House

KELSEA BLOXAM
for Metro Vancouver

BAY The Hudson Bay Company flagship store in downtown Vancouver will act as the Canadian Olympic Team's "home away from Home."

The Canadian Olympic Committee made the announcement Thursday, naming the site on West Georgia Street the next Canada Olympic House for the 2010 Olympics. The site will be on the sixth floor of the store allowing easy access to competition venues in the city centre.

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Alaskan cruise ship season starting

Taxis are expected to be in high demand this weekend because of an unusually large number of cruise ships coming to port on Friday and Saturday. About 14,000 passengers are expected to arrive for the start of the Alaska cruise season. **NEWS1130.COM**

Trash set to fuel garbage trucks

BIOGAS Vancouver's garbage trucks might soon be running on their own trash.

Wastech, which operates waste hauling services in the region, recently completed a trial run where a diesel-powered truck ran with a liquefied natural gas (LNG) engine between Vancouver and the Cache Creek landfill. The fuel came from the landfill by capturing and purifying biogas generated by the natural decomposition of organic waste.

Wastech found that converting the fleet of 28 trucks from diesel to LNG would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 9,000 tonnes. **METRO VANCOUVER**

Public to have say on STV

MINÉ SALKIN
for Metro Vancouver

To STV or not to STV? That is the question facing British Columbians as they head to the ballot boxes on Tuesday.

The current electoral process in B.C. is first-past-the-post (FPTP), a single-winner voting system where the candidate with the most votes wins all.

The B.C.-STV (Single Transferable Vote) is a system of preferential voting in which voters rank their choice of candidates in order of most to least preferred.

It could mean fewer ridings over larger geographical areas and bigger populations, but it could also enhance the electability of fringe parties.

Adriane Carr, deputy leader of the Green party of Canada and an STV supporter, said it should encourage greater voter turnout, which hit a low of 55 per cent in the 2001 election.

"It's a system of proportional representation and people would have a better chance to have their vote count," she said.

Bill Tieleman, president of the No B.C.-STV Society and longtime political commentator, disagrees.

"The STV fractionalizes your vote, which then gets a transferred value and is redistributed," he said. "It's just a confusing process."

The Mandate for the Citizens Assembly said that minority or coalition governments in an STV system lead to "compromised, mediocre decisions."

Carr, like many STV supporters, said that it could fix the problem of Canadian democracy.

"Having more coalitions and co-operative politics could attract women to get involved in politics," she said.

2005 vote

- In a referendum in 2005, 58 per cent of British Columbians voted in favour of the B.C.-STV, just two per cent shy of the number of votes needed to pass.

Canucks to sell Bourdon shirts

CHARITY Special-edition commemorative Luc Bourdon T-shirts will be available at the Canucks Store on Saturday.

The 21-year-old defenceman died last May in a motorcycle accident in New Brunswick.

Proceeds from the sale of the LB Charity Tee, which features an image of Bourdon's face, will be donated to the Luc Bourdon Memorial Fund.

GETTY IMAGES

Luc Bourdon

The charity was established by Bourdon's mother Suzanne Boucher to support needy children in Shippigan, N.B., where Bourdon grew up.

"The Canucks are extremely proud to … continue Luc's work to help those in need in his community," said Chris Zimmerman, president and CEO of Canucks Sports and Entertainment."

The commemorative T-shirts will be sold for $34.99. **METRO VANCOUVER**

News in brief

DRUG BUST Police seized 800 marijuana plants from a Chilliwack residence and arrested a suspect, RCMP announced on Thursday. The 22-year-old suspect is facing various drug charges.

CONCERT Music legends Aerosmith and ZZ Top are set to play a concert at B.C. Place Stadium on Aug. 15, news1130.com reports. Tickets go on sale May 15, starting at $115.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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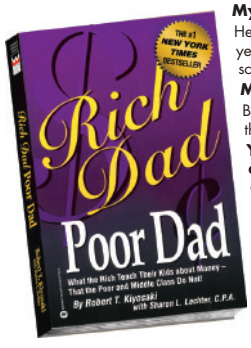

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Filling stations get fewer, survey shows

The number of filling stations in Canada shrank again last year, a sign that gasoline retailers are turning slim profits even as the Canadian population grows, according to a survey released Thursday. REUTERS

Canada

Microsoft to buy game maker

Microsoft Corp. (chairman Bill Gates, left) said Thursday it will buy Vancouver computer game designer BigPark Inc. for an undisclosed amount, as it pushes its strategy of producing exclusive games for its Xbox entertainment system. Microsoft has already been working with BigPark over the past year on a game for the Xbox, but has so far announced no details. More information is expected at the video game industry's annual E3 Expo in June. REUTERS

Sask., Montana team on carbon

CARBON As Saskatchewan and Montana launch a $270-million carbon-capture project there are spin-off benefits for the Canadian economy.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall and Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer announced plans for carbon dioxide storage facilities and a pipeline between their jurisdictions.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

SEAL HUNT MPs agreed to a motion Wednesday that the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver should be used to promote products from the annual seal hunt, including the possibility that Canada's uniform include at least one seal product.

CBC NEWS ONLINE

U.S. help allows for aid: PM

Harper makes brief surprise appearance in Afghanistan

Prime Minister Stephen Harper says thousands of new U.S. troops in Afghanistan will allow Canada to refocus its efforts in the country on humanitarian projects and on training the Afghan army and police force as it prepares for pullout in 2011.

In a surprise, brief appearance in Afghanistan, his third since becoming prime minister, Harper's visit was part pep rally and reminder that changes are coming to Afghanistan.

"The mission is changing in several different ways," Harper told reporters, referring to the emphasis on making the Afghan forces responsible for their own security and better-defined civilian objectives.

After landing at the Kandahar airfield, the largest NATO base in the world, Harper immediately flew by military helicopter to see progress on Canada's signature project, the $50-million refurbishment of the Dahla dam and irrigation system near Kandahar.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper sits in the cockpit of a C-17 aircraft while flying en route to Afghanistan yesterday. Harper says Canada will shift its focus in that country to training police and military personnel as it prepares for its 2011 pullout.

Buzz over bee crisis unfounded, study says

BEE POPULATION A frightening buzz over the imminent demise of honeybees — and the disappearance of their critical pollinating prowess — is unfounded, according to a new Canadian-led study that shows their global numbers actually growing.

High-profile stories over the past three years detailing the mysterious decimation of thousands of bee colonies has led to fears the human food supply was being imperilled by a "pollination crisis," says the study, which appears in the journal Current Biology.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

We Can Help.

You have heard a lot about the H1N1 flu virus, or the swine flu, lately. Some people are even visiting emergency rooms because they are worried.

The symptoms are similar to seasonal flu. You can protect yourself by taking the same simple steps that you do during the regular flu season:

- When you sneeze, use a disposable tissue.
- Cough into your sleeve.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Stay home if you are sick.

If you are worried, the best place to start is not the emergency room. It is by getting the right answers. And we are here to help.

If you are feeling ill or have questions about the H1N1 flu virus, call HealthLink BC at 8-1-1, visit www.gov.bc.ca or www.facebook.com/h1n1informationbc or follow H1N1BC on Twitter.

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No suits over SARS: Court

Ontario's Court of Appeal ruled Thursday that nurses, people who contracted SARS and their families cannot sue the provincial government over the 2003 outbreak that claimed 44 lives. Several groups have alleged the government put economic interests ahead of public safety during the crisis. METRO NEWS SERVICES

News in brief

COURTS A Calgary cement truck driver was convicted Thursday in a 2007 crash that killed five people. Daniel Tschetter was convicted on five counts of manslaughter and one count of obstruction of justice. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Artist Bio - Kings of Leon

Hit Songs
Sex on Fire
Use Somebody

In 2008 Rolling Stone asked "How good could Kings of Leon get? They've already gone further than anyone could've guessed."

Kings of Leon are from Tennessee and made up of brothers Caleb, Nathan, and Jared Followill, and cousin Matthew Followill. Interestingly, these are not the guy's first names; all four go by their middle names.

The band formed in 2000 have released Youth and Young Manhood in 2003, 2005's Aha Shake Heartbreak, and 2007's Behind the Times.

They describe their influences as religion (the brother's dad was a Pentecostal preacher) and good ole Jack Daniels.

Whatever the influence it is working. Songs like *Sex on Fire* and *Use Somebody* tore up the charts in 2008 and 2009.

Catch Kings of Leon at GM Place August 15th and 16th.

Evolution1079.com
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Meaty challenge

Canada took action against the United States at the World Trade Organization Thursday over a U.S. meat-labelling law that Canadian producers say has hurt their hog and cattle sales.

Ottawa requested a further round of consultations, a formal step that will enable it to request a WTO dispute-settlement panel after 60 days if talks with the United States do not resolve its concerns. The issue is over a new rule that forces U.S. meat packers to include the country of origin on their product labels.

Canada had requested WTO consultations last year, but then suspended its action. "Recent instructions from the U.S. secretary of agriculture encouraging U.S. industry to use very strict labelling practices have removed the flexibility previously envisioned in the legislation and will affect the ability of our cattle and hog exporters to compete fairly in the U.S. market," Federal Trade Minister Stockwell Day said. REUTERS

$4B
The approximate value of Canadian hogs and cattle exported to the U.S. annually.

Canadian remains in limbo

FOREIGN AFFAIRS There is nothing to stop the federal government from bringing a Canadian man stranded in Sudan home tomorrow if they wanted to, his lawyers argued in Federal Court in Ottawa yesterday.

Abousfian Abdelrazik has been sleeping on a cot inside the Canadian Embassy in Khartoum for more than a year.

The Sudanese government has released him twice, and both the RCMP and CSIS have said they have no substantive information linking him to criminal activity.

His passport has expired, but he took refuge in the embassy in April 2008 after he went public with his story. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Edmonton **Rescue me**

CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO CANADA

Firefighters Tim Berg and Melanie Mochoruk prepare for the 23-storey descent down the Century Place building in Edmonton yesterday as part of training for the city's fire rescue squad.

News in brief

POLITICS More than $250,000 designated for regional development in Quebec was instead invested in a luxury hotel for dogs and cats in Montreal, according to Parti Québécois Leader Pauline Marois. The allegation was another opposition attack over the management of a public-venture capital fund known as FIER. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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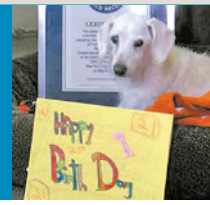
Climate change could affect shrimp stocks: Experts

A $500-million North Atlantic shrimp fishery may be vulnerable to climate change that could disrupt the shrimp's life cycle and mislead them into hatching when food is scarce, scientists said. Any damage to stocks of the northern shrimp could have effects in the ocean food chain ranging from algae to cod. REUTERS

World



Oldest dog has her day

Chanel, the world's oldest dog, celebrated her 21st birthday on Wednesday with a certificate from the Guinness Book of Records and a visit to a dog hotel and spa. The dachshund, a rescue dog from Port Jefferson in New York, wore an orange sweater and red goggles as her owner, Denice Shaughnessy, accepted the award marking her longevity. REUTERS

Pakistan vows to 'eliminate' Taliban

Pakistan's government ordered the army to eliminate militants on Thursday, setting the stage for a major offensive against Taliban fighters battling security forces in a northwestern valley.

The government's handling of the Swat valley has become a test of its resolve to fight a growing Taliban insurgency that has alarmed the United States.

President Asif Ali Zardari, in Washington for talks, assured U.S. President Barack Obama on Wednesday of Islamabad's commitment to defeating al-Qaida and its allies.

Security forces used jets and helicopters to pound Taliban positions in Swat, as thousands of civilians took advantage of a break in a curfew to flee the valley.

With hundreds of thousands of people already displaced, aid groups said the new exodus of tens of thousands was intensifying a humanitarian crisis.

"In order to restore honour and dignity of our homeland and to protect the people, the armed forces have been called in to eliminate the militants and terrorists," said Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gilani.

Gilani did not announce the launching of an offensive but said the government would not bow before terrorists and would force them to lay down their arms. REUTERS

U.S. builds new military camp

- A huge U.S. military camp is taking shape in southern Afghanistan for thousands of extra U.S. troops charged with defeating a resurgent Taliban.
- Camp Leatherneck will host more than 8,000 Marines now flowing into the region.

California blaze levels 1,300 acres, forces residents to flee

SANTA BARBARA Firefighters wary of unpredictable "sundowner" winds fought Thursday to keep a wildfire that destroyed dozens of multimillion-dollar homes from burning through the city of Santa Barbara.

Although there were no further reports Thursday of houses lost in the foothills above Santa Barbara, crews were on alert because the hot, dry winds tend to pick up at sunset. Officials said about 3,500 homes remained threatened.

Some 15,000 people have been driven from their homes by the so-called Jesusita fire. It has also injured 10 firefighters and blackened at least 1,300 acres surrounding the picturesque seaside community since it ignited Tuesday.

Calmer winds late Thursday afternoon gave firefighters the chance to make headway against the blaze, which was edging toward the more populated downtown area.

Authorities said rugged terrain, thick brush and gale-force winds made it difficult to control the blaze. Winds died down overnight, allowing water-dropping helicopters to continue working round-the-clock. REUTERS

Dems' ex-fundraiser pleads guilty to fraud

FRAUD A former Democratic Party fundraiser whose arrest in 2007 prompted Hillary Clinton to return $850,000 US in campaign contributions, pleaded guilty Thursday to fraud charges.

Norman Hsu, who was sentenced to three years in prison by a California state judge in January 2008, pleaded guilty to charges of mail fraud and wire fraud in running a Ponzi scheme of up to $60 million.

U.S. prosecutors said that from 2000 through August 2007, Hsu convinced investors to put up to $60 million into the scheme, in which early investors are paid with the money of new clients. After making payments, he profited by at least $20 million, according to prosecutors.

He still faces trial Monday for violating laws for making political campaign donations in other people's names. REUTERS

Japan **Bot for teacher**

ISSEI KATO / REUTERS

A humanoid robot named Saya is touched by students during a teaching demonstration at an elementary school in Tokyo. The robot, developed by a Tokyo University of Science professor, can speak different languages and make facial expressions.

Virgin sees travel detours through space in future

SPACE TOURISM Long-haul trips could be made in spaceships instead of planes in 20 years' time if Virgin's efforts to commercialise space travel succeed, the president of Virgin Galactic said.

Will Whitehorn said Virgin's plans to take tourists into space were just a first stage that could open up a range of possibilities for the company including space science, computer server farms in space and replacing long-haul flights.

Virgin Galactic, part of Richard Branson's Virgin Group, has collected $40 million in deposits from would-be space tourists including physicist Stephen Hawking, and hopes to start commercial trips within two years.

Whitehorn said the bookings from 300 people willing to pay $200,000 US each for a space flight had convinced Virgin the venture was viable. It is currently running test flights and hopes soon to win a licence from the Federal Aviation Authority. REUTERS

Flu **Outbreak:** Reports suggest Canadian with flu has died

- Reports emerged Thursday night that an elderly Albertan woman who had influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, had died. It was not yet clear whether she had any other health conditions. Saskatchewan also reported its first two cases. CBC NEWS ONLINE
- The U.S., Canada and Mexico vowed Thursday to contest bans on their pork products in the wake of the flu. Around 20 countries have imposed import restrictions on North American pork.
- The virus is not yet spreading in a sustained way outside North America, so the global pandemic level remains at 5 out of 6, a senior WHO official said on Thursday.
- Mexico confirmed two more deaths Thursday, pushing the country's toll to 44. Millions of students in Mexico returned to class Thursday. REUTERS

News in brief

SURGERY Connie Culp, who underwent the first face transplant surgery conducted in the U.S., faced reporters and the world to thank her team of doctors and surgeons. Medical staff at the Cleveland Clinic performed her near-total face transplant on Dec. 10, 2008, that put her life back on track after she lost most of her face due to a gunshot. REUTERS

2009 OUTLANDER

2009 OUTLANDER OWN IT FOR $278 PER MONTH† FOR 84 MONTHS WITH $5,196 DOWN PAYMENT

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2009 LANCER OWN IT FOR $188 PER MONTH‡ FOR 84 MONTHS WITH ‡3,583 DOWN PAYMENT

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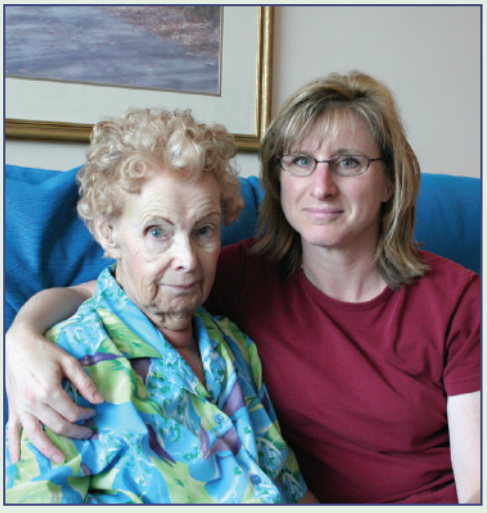


Nurses say —

"Help keep the promise to BC seniors"

Many seniors need good quality support to stay safe and healthy in their own homes.

And when they can no longer stay at home, they deserve access to quality care in a public nursing home that has at least one registered nurse 24/7.

But since 2001 BC has **reduced help** for seniors living at home. And BC has **lost** 804 nursing home beds.* That's despite a government promise to create "5,000 new intermediate and long term care beds."

Instead, health authorities have built or subsidized 4,393 new assisted living spaces.

Assisted living can be positive for seniors who can still live independently with some support.

But ***nurses know* assisted living is not appropriate for seniors with complex care needs**. It's not appropriate for seniors who are forced to stay in hospital beds because there's nowhere else to go.

Ask your candidates -
"How will you keep the promise to provide appropriate care for seniors who need it and deserve it?"

*An Uncertain Future for Seniors", Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, www.policyalternatives.ca, April 2009

Authorized by the British Columbia Nurses' Union, Registered Sponsor 604-433-2268

cope

Moscow bans gay parade

Moscow has banned a gay parade planned to coincide with its hosting of the Eurovision Song Contest because it will "destroy morals" in the Russian capital, a spokesman for the city's mayor said on Thursday. Organizers say the event will take place anyway. REUTERS

Peace will prevail in Ireland: Watchdog

Northern Ireland's decade-old peace process will not be derailed by recent dissident nationalist attacks, an independent watchdog said on Thursday.

Militants, who want to break British control of Northern Ireland by force, killed two British soldiers and a policeman in separate attacks in March. The groups, made up of former members of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), have vowed further attacks, including in mainland Britain.

"This is a challenge and a testing of the peace process by the people who have always been violently opposed to it," the Independent Monitoring Commission said in a report. "It does not represent an unravelling of the peace process."

The attacks marked the worst violence since a 1998 peace deal ended 30 years of conflict between the IRA, seeking a united Ireland, and groups wanting to maintain the province's union with Britain. REUTERS

News in brief

FIRE A blaze tore through a gaming hall in central Ukraine on Thursday, killing nine people and injuring 11. Officials reported to local media that hall's director had been detained. REUTERS

MAY 2009 GENERAL ELECTION

AND REFERENDUM ON ELECTORAL REFORM

Don't forget to vote.

Voting Opportunities

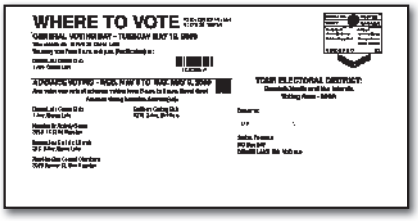
There are many voting opportunities in B.C. Here are some of your options:

Advance Voting Available to all voters. Voters can attend any advance voting location from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (local time), Wednesday, May 6 to Saturday, May 9. All advance voting locations are wheelchair accessible.

General Voting Available to all voters. Voters can attend any general voting location from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Pacific time), Tuesday, May 12, 2009.

Other Voting Options If you are going to be away or some other circumstance prevents you from voting at advance voting or general voting, you can vote in any district electoral office from when the election is called on Tuesday, April 14 to 4 p.m. (Pacific time) on Tuesday, May 12. You can also request a vote-by-mail package from your district electoral office or through the Elections BC website at **www.elections.bc.ca**

Do You Have This Card?



This card tells you where you can vote during the four days of advance voting and on General Voting Day. Take it with you when you go to vote. If you do not have this card, visit the Elections BC website at **www.elections.bc.ca** or call toll-free **1-800-661-8683** to find a voting location near you.

How To Vote

- Choose only one candidate.
- Choose one electoral system.
- Mark your ballot with an ✘ or ✔.

Future Voters

Elections BC encourages you to bring your children with you when you vote. It's a chance to show tomorrow's voters how our electoral process works.

Who Can Vote?

You can vote if you are:

- 18 years of age or older, or will be 18 on General Voting Day (May 12, 2009)
- a Canadian citizen
- a resident of British Columbia for the past six months

You Can Register When You Vote

If you aren't already registered, you can register when you go to vote. You'll need identification that proves both your identity and current residential address.

Bring Identification

Don't forget to bring ID when you go to vote. All voters must show identification before they receive their ballots.

Any one of the following is acceptable:

- BC drivers licence
- BC identification card
- Certificate of Indian Status

If you don't have any of the above, bring two documents that together prove your identity and current residential address.

Government-issued identity documents (e.g. health care card, birth certificate, social insurance card, passport, citizenship document/ certificate, Old Age Security card etc.)

Other government-issued documents (e.g. property tax assessment, income tax assessment notice, government cheque)

School/college/university-issued document (e.g. admissions letter, report card, transcript, residence acceptance, tuition/fees statement, student card)

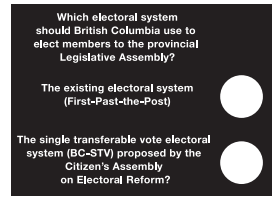
Other documents

- bank/credit card or statement
- residential lease/mortgage statement
- insurance statement
- public transportation pass
- utility bill
- membership cards
- hospital bracelet/documents
- attestation of residence
- provincial election Where to Vote card

Voters without identification can be vouched for by a voter in their electoral district who does have the necessary identification, or a direct family member or someone who has legal authority to make personal care decisions for the voter.

Referendum On Electoral Reform

In addition to an election ballot, voters will also receive a ballot to vote in the referendum on electoral reform.



For more information on the referendum on electoral reform, visit the Referendum Information Office website at **www.BCreferendum2009.ca**
Or, call their toll-free information line at **1-800-668-2800** (in Vancouver: 604-775-2800) from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Pacific time) Monday to Friday.

Any Questions?

For further information visit Elections BC's website at **www.elections.bc.ca** or call toll-free **1-800-661-8683**.

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- **RICHMOND**
  Mayor Malcolm Brodie
- **COQUITLAM**
  Mayor Richard Stewart
- **NORTH VAN CITY**
  Mayor Darrell Mussatto
- **DELTA**
  Mayor Lois Jackson
- **PORT MOODY**
  Mayor Joe Trasolini
- **LANGLEY CITY**
  Mayor Peter Fassbender
- **LANGLEY TOWNSHIP**
  Mayor Rick Green

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Metro Vancouver's overcrowded bus system is in crisis – and there is an immediate solution – buy USED buses!

The Canadian Auto Workers Local 111 - representing over 3,200 Metro Vancouver transit operators – has a **quick and simple solution to overcrowding, pass ups and inadequate service** – buy used buses available right now to help deal with our existing shortage of 500 to 800 buses.

Used buses available in California today cost from $35,000 to $95,000 per bus – just a fraction of the cost of a new bus – and at least **100 buses could be in service in weeks, incr**easing ridership capacity by thousands.

It's time for the provincial government – which is responsible for TransLink and public transit – to take action and Buy More Buses Now!

Ask your provincial election candidates what their position is – and tell them you are voting for **More Buses Now!**

And please send BC Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon and the provincial government a clear message with the coupon below. Or go to **www.MoreBusesNow.com** and send an email.

CAW TCA CANADA LOCAL 111

Dear Transportation Minister Falcon: This election I am voting for **More Buses Now!** I/we urge you to act immediately to provide TransLink with funding to buy **More Buses Now** to reduce overcrowding and inadequate service.

Authorized by CAW-Canada, registered sponsor under the Election Act, 604-519-1110

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City ..... Email .....

Mail To:

BC Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon
c/o CAW Local 111, 326 – 12th Street
New Westminster, BC V3M 4H6

NOTE: CAW 111 WILL FORWARD ALL COUPONS TO THE TRANSPORTATION MINISTER.

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Comment

Opening up opportunity

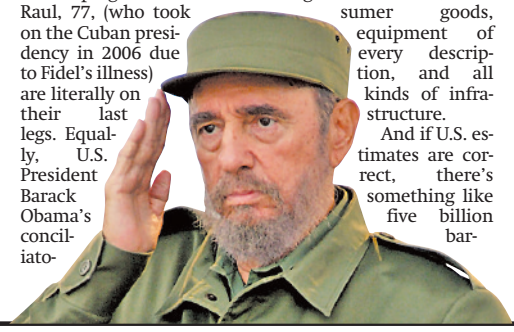
InBusiness

Charles Davies

To visit Cuba is literally to experience time travel. Outside the self-contained and sanitized resorts from which few Canadians venture, Cuba is stranded in the 1950s — a vista of decaying towns and cities, large stretches of unused countryside, hammerhead oil wells, clutches of workers at bus stops, crumbling highways, and innumerable classic cars, many belching apocalyptic clouds of exhaust. The only advertisements are revolutionary slogans painted on walls. And everywhere there's a constant police presence, a none-too-subtle reminder that Cuba remains a repressive state.

If the country has barely progressed since Fidel Castro took over on Jan. 1, 1959, the recent past has hardly been kinder. Thanks to the global recession, external financing for the island has dried up, falling commodity prices have cut into export revenues for key items such as nickel, food imports are becoming more costly, and tourism — now a roughly $3-billion-a-year industry — is slowing down.

All this will change, and not just because economic growth will resume. Fidel Castro, 82, and his younger, more pragmatic brother Raul, 77, (who took on the Cuban presidency in 2006 due to Fidel's illness) are literally on their last legs. Equally, U.S. President Barack Obama's conciliatory gestures towards the island — backed by more positive U.S. public opinion about the country — signal that the U.S. embargo that has stifled Cuba's economy for decades may finally be coming to an end. When you ask Cubans about the future, they speak without hesitation of a freer, more entrepreneurial country.



For Canadian companies, Cuba is an enormous business opportunity in the making. Aside from the further potential for tourism development, Cuba literally needs everything — foodstuffs, consumer goods, equipment of every description, and all kinds of infrastructure.

And if U.S. estimates are correct, there's something like five billion barrels of oil and 10 trillion cubic feet of natural gas waiting for exploitation offshore.

But aside from Sherritt International's well-developed nickel mining, oil and gas and electricity operations, corporate Canada seems largely absent. An estimated 85 Canadian firms operate there, but aside from the likes of Sherritt and Labatt Breweries (actually owned by Belgium's InBev S.A.) the rest are mid-sized and smaller companies.

The Harper government's coolness toward Cuba in recent years hasn't helped either. By contrast, sizable U.S. and European companies are already jockeying for position once the door opens on the new Cuba.

It's an opportunity that Canada cannot afford to miss.

Veteran financial writer Charles Davies recently spent time in Havana and northern Cuba, visiting sites once frequented by Ernest Hemingway.

Views

Vote — democracy will thank you

UrbanCompass

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/sullivan

Only four days until the miracle of democracy happens again, right before our eyes, in school gymnasiums across B.C.

OK, it's not much compared to the steam clock in Gastown, which can be counted on to do its tourist-enchanting thing once an hour, but it's still pretty special.

You and I get to join about two million of our neighbours to elect the government that will run our province for the next four years.

And that's a privilege many people in the rest of the world do not enjoy. More than 40 per cent do not live in a democracy, and have no say over who runs their lives.

You may be thinking to yourself, "Yeah, well what kind of choice do I have? Gordon Campbell? Carole James? Jane Sterk? (Jane Who?)"

I have to admit, there are no Barack Obamas in this crowd, but this choice is better than no choice, and the contestants were all elected to lead their respective parties.

Despite being offered a front row seat and a chance to participate in the above-mentioned miracle, nearly half of the eligible voters in B.C. will give it a pass.

The 2001 provincial election was the low water mark: a record-low turnout of 55 per cent cast their ballot. It was a little better in 2005: 58 per cent, and Elections B.C. is hoping beyond hope that this time, we can struggle over the 60 per cent mark.

For some reason, everyone is really good at complaining about the government, but not so good at doing anything about it.

It's not even hard to do.

With the advance polls open Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the election Tuesday, it's almost as easy to vote as it is to pay $5 for a cup of coffee, and that's saying something.

Let's do a little exercise. Wherever you are right now — on the bus, the SkyTrain, standing in line waiting to pay $5 for a cup of coffee — look surreptitiously at the person next to you. (If that person is holding this weekend's Metro and looking surreptitiously back at you, well, you're both on the same page.)

Consider this: If voting patterns from past elections hold, one of you will not vote this election.

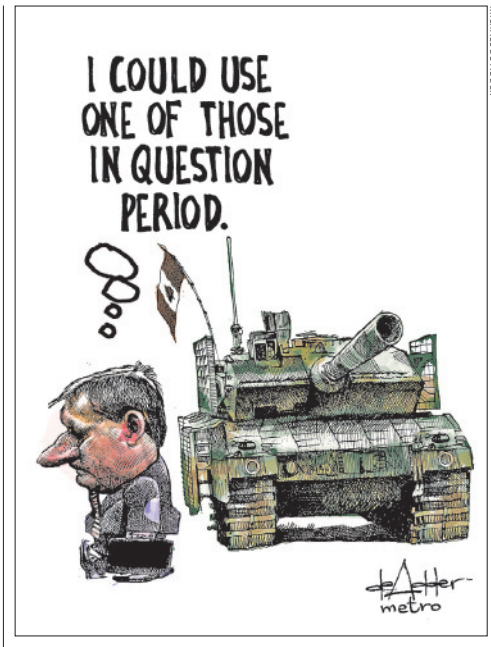
Is it you?

Or is it that lazy franchise flouter who's giving you the evil eye?

The only way to make sure he/she is the guilty one, and to make sure that bozo (insert hated politician's name here) doesn't get elected, is to exercise that flabby franchise.

Your democracy will thank you for it.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

U.S. soldier may face death for role in Iraqi murders

A former U.S. soldier was convicted Thursday of raping an Iraqi girl and killing her and her family near Baghdad in 2006 and now faces a possible death sentence.

The federal court jury that delivered guilty verdicts on all 16 counts against former Pte. 1st Class Steven Green will decide his fate in the trial's death penalty phase beginning Monday.

Green, 24, was tried in federal court as a civilian on murder, rape and obstruction of justice charges since his arrest came after he was discharged from the U.S. Army later in 2006 for a "personality disorder."

The trial, which lasted eight days before 1½ days of jury deliberations, featured prosecution testimony by Green's former comrades in which they detailed the brutal assault, one of several incidents involving American soldiers that enraged Iraqis and strained U.S. relations.

Green, 19 at the time of the crime, was described as the trigger-man in the group of five men, who donned black "ninja" outfits and raped Abeer Qassim Hamza al-Janabi, 14, and shot to death her and her father, mother and six-year-old sister. **REUTERS**

Metro Online Poll Results

34% SAID YES	Will Jim Balsillie succeed in bringing a second NHL team to southern Ontario?	66% SAID NO

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Send your thoughts and opinions to: vancouverletters@metronews.ca or Twitter: @vancouvermetro

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$400M renovation being mulled for Olympic Stadium
About $400 million could be spent to renovate Montreal's Olympic Stadium, just 2½ years after Quebec finally paid off its $1.5-billion debt from the 1976 Games. CBC NEWS ONLINE

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Warner posts loss

Music company hit by plummeting CD sales

Warner Music Group on Thursday posted a wider quarter loss as recorded music sales fell faster than expected, sending its shares down 15 per cent.

The world's third-largest music company posted a net loss of $68 million US, or 45 cents a share in its fiscal second quarter ended March 31, compared with a year-earlier loss of $37 million, or 25 cents a share.

The company booked $33 million in charges for items such as the declining value of investments in digital music startup companies Lala and Imeem.

As a result of the write-offs, chief executive Edgar Bronfman told analysts on a conference call that he does not intend to make more venture capital investments in digital music startups.

Revenue fell 17 per cent to $668 million, compared with the average Wall Street forecast of of $730.2 million.

This sent the company's shares down 15 per cent to $4.63 on the New York Stock Exchange, but still well above the shares' recent low of $1.76 in March.

Like other music companies, Warner is struggling with shrinking sales of recorded music as fewer fans buy albums in physical CD format.

The transition to downloaded music has led to a decline in revenue throughout the industry as fans increasingly buy lower-priced individual songs from web retailers.

Warner also blamed the weak results on a light record-release schedule and the turbulent global economy. REUTERS

Digital sales

- Warner Music said its digital music sales rose six per cent from the prior year to $173 million US, or 26 per cent of total revenue in quarter.

Mexico Copper outlook

DANIEL AGUILAR/REUTERS

Grupo Mexico's CFO Daniel Muniz speaks at the Reuters Summit in Mexico City Thursday. The copper giant said strong demand from China coupled with tight global supply meant prices for the metal were unlikely to fall below $2 US per pound in 2009, but the firm maintained its annual guidance of $1.75 per pound.

Imax reports smaller decline

FILM Imax Corp., which makes giant movie screens and operates theatres equipped with them, reported a narrower quarterly loss Thursday and said the company will likely return to profitability in 2009 .

As the summer blockbuster season approaches, the company said it was confident people will flock to Imax theatres for big-name releases.

Imax posted a first-quarter net loss of $2.64 million US, or six cents a share, compared with a loss of $10.26 million, or 25 cents a share, for the first fiscal quarter of 2008.

Analysts on average had expected a first-quarter loss of nine cents a share. REUTERS

BCE, Telus pin wireless revenue drop on recession

TELECOM BCE Inc. and Telus Corp. warned Thursday that the recession is battering their key wireless businesses as consumers keep a tight rein on spending and use their mobile phones less often.

In reporting first-quarter results, both BCE and Telus said that, on average, they are bringing in less revenue per wireless user each month. Both blamed the weak economy.

Smartphones like Research in Motion's BlackBerry and Apple's iPhone have been a crucial driver of profits for Canadian carriers.

The trend stumbled in the first quarter as customers tightened their purse strings amid general economic uncertainty.

Telus said new wireless subscriber additions dropped 46 per cent to 48,000. Average monthly revenue for both prepaid and postpaid users fell 5.6 per cent to $58.39 per wireless user.

BCE added 35,000 new postpaid users to its wireless network, up from 28,000 a year earlier, but average revenue per postpaid user fell three per cent to $62.34 a month, it said. REUTERS

Business in brief

AUTO Canada has given the Canadian Auto Workers until May 15 to reach a new concession deal with General Motors, or the company will not receive long-term government funding and its Canadian operations will be in jeopardy, the head of the union said on Thursday. REUTERS

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Soccer star apologizes

Striker Didier Drogba has apologized for his behaviour following Chelsea's dramatic Champions League exit against Barcelona on Wednesday. The Ivory Coast captain harangued Norwegian referee Tom Henning Ovrebo after the final whistle and then directed a foul-mouthed rant directly to a live TV camera. REUTERS

Sports

Done for good, for real?

Brett Favre has reportedly told the Minnesota Vikings that he wants to stay retired. Yahoo Sports reported Thursday, citing a source close to the Vikings, that Favre told Minnesota coach Brad Childress in a phone conversation that he wanted to stay retired. Additionally, Favre's agent, Bus Cook, told USA Today he spoke to the future Hall of Fame quarterback on Thursday and said Favre intends to stay retired. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Chicago evens series

STANLEY CUP
2009 **Playoffs**

(SERIES TIED 2-2)

Canucks 1 **Blackhawks** 2 (OT)

VS

SCOTT RINTOUL
for Metro Vancouver

JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES

Vancouver's Mason Raymond gets tangled up with Chicago's Matt Walker Thursday during Game 4 of their Western Conference semifinal. Chicago won 2-1 in overtime.

THE SKINNY: Maple Ridge's Andrew Ladd tipped David Bolland's shot past Roberto Luongo at 2:52 of overtime to give the Blackhawks a comeback win over the Canucks. The Canucks were less than three minutes away from taking a 3-1 series lead, but Martin Havlat's fourth goal of the playoffs forced the extra session. Darcy Hordichuk replied for the Canucks with his first career playoff goal.

THE SAVE: Alex Burrows fired a one-timer from point-blank range 30 seconds prior to Ladd's winner, only to be thwarted by the left pad of Nicolai Khabibulin.

THE MISTAKE: Willie Mitchell failed to clear a loose puck late in the third and the ill-timed turnover resulted in Havlat's tying goal.

THE CAPTAIN: Despite the loss, Luongo turned in his most dominant performance of the series. A number of his 26 saves on the night were of the spectacular variety.

THE RATING: It won't go down as a classic, but it was more entertaining than the shot totals would indicate. Four out of five stars.

Saturday

VS

7:30 p.m.
CBC/TEAM 1040

Despite Thursday's disappointing overtime loss, the Canucks did regain home-ice advantage in the series thanks to a 3-1 victory in Game 3. Vancouver has yet to lose back-to-back games in the playoffs, and the Hawks have won just two of five road games in the post-season.

Broken Whistles?: After combining for an average of more than 11 power plays through the first three games of the series, the Hawks and Canucks produced a total of just three man advantages in Game 4.

A Round of Shot: Despite winning six of their eight playoff games thus far, the Canucks have only outshot their opposition once in the post-season (Game 1 vs. St Louis).

More to sports than NHL boardrooms

FieldofPlay

Scott Russell

metronews.ca/fieldofplay

In case you haven't heard, there's a billionaire trying to buy an NHL franchise and move it to Southern Ontario.

Toronto hockey fans are in a tizzy.

And while it's awesome to see the affection folks in the metropolis have for our ice-bound obsession, there is so much out there that screams for our attention.

It's true hockey has come to embody much of the Canadian identity, but this fascination with what is essentially a business deal has overshadowed what great sport is really all about.

I'm talking about the wizardry of Sidney Crosby and Alex Ovechkin on Stanley Cup playoff ice. The Blue Jays are making a little magic deep into May and are still in first place. And professional soccer is finally taking root in this country, reflecting a complex, multicultural reality.

Beyond all this, the playing fields are alive across the land. Young people are back in the water and on the tracks to someday soon fly Canadian colours on the international stage.

Don't get me wrong, I love hockey and think a seventh NHL franchise in this country would be sweet justice. But I'm not going to dwell on it.

Heck, Canada's going to host the Olympics in nine months! Women ski jumpers are fighting for gender equality and the right to compete at Vancouver 2010. We'll also find out if the Golden Horseshoe's Pan American Games bid has been successful.

"I'm talking about the wizardry of Sidney Crosby and Alex Ovechkin ... The Blue Jays are making a little magic ... And professional soccer is finally taking root in this country."

The World's fastest man, Usain Bolt, will appear in Toronto, and just outside Halifax this summer they'll stage the world canoe/kayak championships. There are marathons to be run and swimming races to be won.

So there it is. I applaud Jim Balsillie's quest to plant another team in Canadian soil and redefine the NHL's future. But, in a sporting nation like ours, it's also good to know that the field of play goes well beyond the boards, or indeed boardrooms, of professional hockey.

Gemini Award-winner and author Scott Russell is the host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. A 20-year CBC Sports veteran, he has covered a variety of professional and amateur sports, including nine Olympic Games and numerous world championships.

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SCOREBOARD

NHL

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Chicago 2 Vancouver 1 (OT)
Detroit 6 Anaheim 3

FRIDAY
Washington at Pittsburgh
Boston at Carolina

SATURDAY
Pittsburgh at Washington
Chicago at Vancouver

SUNDAY
Carolina at Boston
Anaheim at Detroit

NBA

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Cleveland 105 Atlanta 85

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Orlando at Boston
Houston at L.A. Lakers

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Cleveland at Atlanta
Denver at Dallas

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Orlando
L.A. Lakers at Houston

MLB

THURSDAY'S AL RESULTS
Baltimore 5 Minnesota 4
Boston 13 Cleveland 3
Kansas City 3 Seattle 1
Oakland 9 Texas 4
Chicago White Sox 6 Detroit 0
Tampa Bay 8 N.Y. Yankees 6
L.A. Angels 6 Toronto 1

THURSDAY'S NL RESULTS
Atlanta 4 Florida 2
Cincinnati 6 Milwaukee 5
Chicago Cubs 8 Houston 5
N.Y. Mets 7 Philadelphia 5
St. Louis 5 Pittsburgh 2
San Francisco 8 Colorado 3
San Diego 4 Arizona 3 (10 ings)
Washington at L.A. Dodgers

Evolving 20's Top 10
1. I'm Confused, **Handsome Furs**
2. Through and Through and Through, **Joel Plasket**
3. The Rake's Song, **The Decemberists**
4. Schoolyard, **Wintermitts**
5. Without Again, **Elliott Brood**
6. Zero, **Yeah Yeah Yeahs**
7. Geraldine, **Glasvegas**
8. Coconut Records, **Microphone**
9. The Fear, **Lilly Allen**
10. Elizabeth, **Like a Martyr**
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50-game suspension for Ramirez

BASEBALL Los Angeles Dodgers slugger Manny Ramirez has been suspended for 50 games after testing positive for a performance-enhancing drug, Major League Baseball said on Thursday.

Ramirez, who signed a two-year, $45-million contract with the Dodgers before the season, was hitting .348 with six homers and 20 runs batted in.

The suspension begins with Thursday's home game against Washington and he is eligible to return on July 3 against the Padres in San Diego. Ramirez, who is making $25 million this year, stands to lose about $7.7 million in salary.

The 36-year-old power-hitting outfielder had helped the Dodgers post a 21-8 record this season, the best mark in the major leagues, including an MLB record 13 successive home wins to start a season.

A 12-time all-star player who came to the Dodgers last season by trade from the Boston Red Sox, Ramirez becomes the biggest name to be penalized since MLB began a testing program to detect use of performance-enhancing drugs in 2003.

His 533 career homers puts him 17th on the all-time list. REUTERS

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SUNDAY › 7:00AM

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SUNDAY › 11:30AM

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Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Back for more

Pg 22

Angels & Demons' mix of intrigue and religion — starring Tom Hanks in a reprise of his Da Vinci role as symbologist Robert Langdon — may sound familiar to Da Vinci Code fans but director Ron Howard maintains this instalment is a different beast. "I just didn't want to miss this next Robert Langdon adventure," he says.

movies

Pg 22

Lymelife's suburbia feels as tacky as the '80s decor.

music

Pg 28

Paul Potts describes his ride from British talent show.

television

Pg 30

Less Than Kind star up for an award for his TV role.

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At a glance
Star Trek ⊕⊕⊕⊕; Lymelife ⊕⊕; Adoration ⊕⊕

Movies

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR

Demons 'a different beast'

Director Howard dishes on follow-up to Da Vinci Code

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada

Ron Howard, the flame-haired actor turned director of The Da Vinci Code, wasn't surprised by the success of his adaptation of the best selling Dan Brown suspense novel.

"The idea at the centre of The Da Vinci Code was so provocative and such a hot button issue it really lived at the centre of popular culture for almost two years," he said this week in Rome before the premiere of Angels & Demons, the follow-up to the record-breaking Da Vinci Code.

"Angels & Demons is a popular novel," the director says, although he acknowledges that it isn't as notorious as the other book. "What I'm finding, however, is if you like The Da Vinci Code you're going to really like Angels & Demons. I feel like it could be a thrilling and exciting experience for audiences in of itself; separating itself from The Da Vinci Code movie or the novel."

The new film, starring Tom Hanks in a reprise of his Da Vinci role as symbologist Robert Langdon, sees the Harvard professor work to solve a murder, unravel the mystery of an ancient secret brotherhood called the Illuminati and prevent a terrorist act against the Vatican.

The mix of intrigue and religious may sound familiar to Da Vinci Code fans but Howard maintains Angels & Demons is a different beast. "If I felt like it was a cookie cutter situation and I was being asked to repeat myself then it wouldn't interest me," he said, "but I just didn't want to miss this next Robert Langdon adventure.

"I like the uniqueness of these Dan Brown stories. Sure they use the murder mystery genre, but in a way that is so fresh that these films stand on their own as something brand new."

Something that certainly is new in Angels & Demons is the setting. Shot on location in Rome, the movie is a love letter to the Eternal City.

"For scheduling reasons we had to shoot in June," Howard says.

"Everyone in Italy kept saying that we couldn't have chosen a worse month but I'm very glad in a way it was so hectic and intense because it energized everything."

• Angels & Demons opens across Canada next Friday.

Tom Hanks, left, reprises his role as The Da Vinci Code symbologist Robert Langdon in the film adaptation of the Dan Brown novel, Angels & Demons. The film is in theatres next week.

Movie feature

On the web

• For movie photos, trailers and screen times, or to buy tickets, visit metronews.ca/movies.

Adoration all pretension

Adoration
Director: Atom Egoyan
Stars: Scott Speedman, Devon Bostick
Classification: 14A
Rating: ⊕⊕

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Somewhere buried within the body of Adoration — the latest tale of damaged lives from Canadian filmmaker Atom Egoyan — is a decent drama about cultural intolerance and its devastating effect on a family.

Shame then that the director's leanings toward self-indulgence steer the story into the realms of hopelessly pretentious twaddle.

Gawky but game young actor Devon Bostick stars as Simon, a Toronto-based teen who, desperately trying to reconcile the conflicting emotions surrounding the death of his mother and Lebanese father, allows his high school French teacher (Egoyan's wife and regular cinematic muse Arsinee Khanjian) to treat a classroom translation exercise as autobiographical.

Detailing the events surrounding his father's failed terrorist martyring of his mother at an Israeli airport, his fictional monologue is soon posted online, causing a massive controversy amongst students, intellectuals and reactionaries alike, much to the chagrin of his haunted guardian and uncle, Tom (Underworld's Scott Speedman).

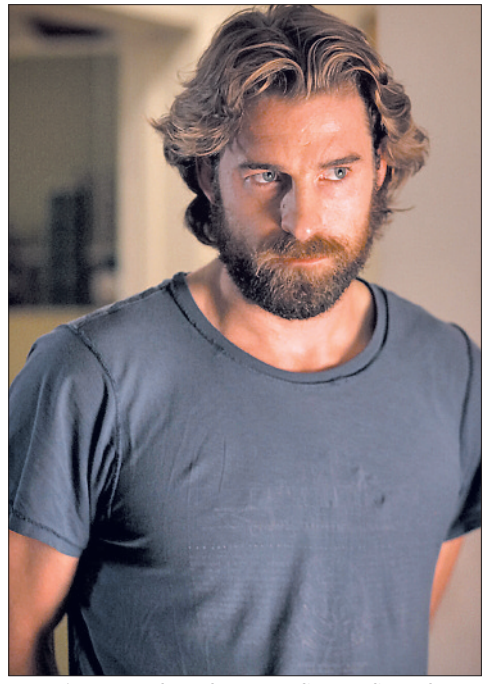
In traditional Egoyan fashion, Adoration is structured like a Chinese puzzle box, revealing information slowly, methodically and deliberately deceiving the audience.

Some have thrilled to this muddy, convoluted narrative conceit (the film won the Golden Palm prize at Cannes) but it seriously damages the streamline elegance of the story, causing us to focus on the form at the expense of the characters.

Further drawing us out of the heart of the tale is Egoyan's ridiculous and grating stylized realization of online webcam chatrooms, and the outrage such a relatively benign stunt provokes.

On the plus side, Khanjian is typically good in her strange role as manipulative mentor, as is Speedman as the struggling, decent uncle Tom.

Mychael Danna's score is also effective; drenching the picture in slow, sad violins and toney ambience and it's always great to see Toronto play itself onscreen.



Toronto's Scott Speedman plays a struggling guardian to the teenage protagonist in Atom Egoyan's Adoration.

Lymelife's drama trapped on page

Lymelife
Director: Derick Martini
Stars: Alec Baldwin, Rory Culkin
Classification: 14A
Rating: ⊕⊕

ADAM NAYMAN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW A story of familial dysfunction set at the dawn of the Reagan '80s, Lymelife orbits around Scott Bartlett (Rory Culkin), the moody son of an adulterous dad (Alec Baldwin) and a self-martyring mom (Jill Hennessy).

The Bartletts' unhappiness is hardly atypical: Their Long Island neighbourhood has enough tragic characters for an entire short story collection.

Derick Martini's film (co-written by his brother Steven) works over the terrain of suburban ennui first cultivated by Robert Redford's Ordinary People in 1980, but familiarity is only part of the problem. Despite the presence of some talented actors (including Ordinary People alum Timothy Hutton), Lymelife's various dramatic and visual conceits feel as if they're still trapped on the page.

And then there are the painfully on-the-nose dialogue exchanges, like the one where Culkin and his girl-next-door crush (Emma Roberts) discuss an unnamed novel about "phonies;" the Martinis may think that not having either of the characters actually say The Catcher in the Rye makes it a subtle reference, but they're wrong.

Speaking of unsubtle references: Lymelife's debt to American Beauty is never more evident than its final scenes, which find one tragically addled character stumbling around, shotgun in hand, while his neighbours are shamelessly arrayed for our delectation as potential victims.

After all, what's an expose of suburban American malaise without the promise of a random murder? That the film follows through on this promise is nothing to be proud of.

Lymelife's nihilism feels as tackily prefab as its painstakingly recreated period décor.

Weisz plays Whistleblower

Rachel Weisz has signed up to star in upcoming political drama Whistleblower. The Constant Gardener actress will play an American police officer who discovers a sex-trafficking scandal in post-war Bosnia. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Caine's magic touch

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

FEATURE In his latest movie, Michael Caine plays a cantankerous magician coping with life in a family-run retirement home. At 76, it's the perfect role for the legendary actor — not that he's considering retired life anytime soon.

"A role like this just makes me look forward," said Caine during a recent interview to promote Is Anybody There? "I'm such a forward-looking person and I'm an optimist to the point of being an idiot — I think everything's going to be alright."

It's just that refreshing, disarming attitude that has made Michael Caine one of cinema's most beloved actors on and off-screen for over 50 years. It's also ensured the Oscar-winner a flood of decent new scripts of late. Why, he wouldn't be able to retire if he wanted to.

It seems to be paying off with Is Anybody There? — in theatres next Friday — that has already garnered a ton of praise.

But while some critics are calling it, "Caine's best performance in years," the septuagenarian is quick to shirk the attention — instead praising his young co-star Bill Milner (Son of Rambow).

"We had to have a great little boy — otherwise the picture would go in the tube," said Caine of the story's reclusive 11-year old boy whom his character mentors. "When we rehearsed, I realized we'd done well because Bill is a natural movie actor."

According to Caine, much of the credit also belongs to the semi-autobiographical script by Peter Harness.

And Caine should know good scripts. Having starred in 100-plus films — including such Oscar-winners as The Cider House Rules and blockbusters

Movie **feature**

like The Dark Knight — Is Anybody There? lays claim as the only script to have ever caused Caine to shed tears.

"I'm not one of nature's criers, believe me. That's what made me realize it was so special. I thought, 'Bloody hell, I'm sitting in an office, on my own, and I'm crying.' That's astonishing."

Michael Caine, left, and Bill Milner star in Is Anybody There?

Shine Fierce Light on the bright side of life

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

FEATURE Of all the emotions conjured up watching Fierce Light: When Spirit Meets Action, the one that perhaps surprises most critics is just how optimistic it is for a documentary.

"(Documentary filmmakers) have a tendency to really look at things that are going wrong in the world," said director Velcrow Ripper.

"But I always feel like every film has a responsibility to offer us hope because I think we need it so much. I really consider that my responsibility as a filmmaker."

In the thought-provoking movie (in theatres next Friday), Ripper travels the globe searching for the link between activism and spirituality.

It's a touching journey that takes him from a celebrity-endorsed sit-in at the dismantling of an urban farm in L.A. to the historic return visit of exiled Vietnamese monk Thich Nhat Hanh to the South African birthplace of "soul force" — Gandhi's non-violent philosophy of activism.

"For some people the film has actually been life changing," said Ripper, adding that while the film may be optimistic, the audience must earn that sense.

"There are times when the whole audience is in tears during the film and then we bring them out through the other side and give a lot of people a direct taste of soul force.

"To be a documentary filmmaker you have to love humanity, you have to love the planet, you have to have a great sense of curiosity and I never feel like its work for me," said Ripper. "It's always an exciting adventure."

Velcrow Ripper's doc Fierce Light hits theatres next week.

Neeson receives doctorate

In his first public speaking appearance since his wife Natasha Richardson's death, Liam Neeson quoted poet Paul Muldoon to describe how art helps heal the heart while he received an honorary doctorate from Queens University Belfast. USMAGAZINE.COM

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Movie **morsels**

17 Again

●●●

REVIEW In his first major starring role outside the High School Musical franchise, Zac Efron is looking to prove that he's more than just a pretty face, that he can carry a movie. And he very well might be able to, if the movie in question didn't spend so much time trying to make that point. There's a certain "Hey look, he's doing it!" aspect to 17 Again that can get in the way of the movie itself. 17 Again follows Mike O'Donnell (played as an adult by Matthew Perry), who, through a bit of hocus pocus, is transformed back to his 17-year-old self (Efron), only it's still present day, so suddenly he's going to high school with his teenage children.

Ned Ehrbar/Metro World

Crank: High Voltage

●●

REVIEW Crank: High Voltage is disgusting, disposable, disorienting, inhuman and infantile … and those are its good points. Immediately picking up where the attention deficit friendly adventures of the first instalment left off, brutish British action hero Jason Statham returns as Chev Chellios, who, after surviving an impossible fall from a helicopter, has his heart removed by Triad organ thieves and replaced by a bionic one. In order for Chev to beat the clock — again — and retrieve his resilient ticker, he has to keep his body constantly pulsing with electricity, a gimmicky plot device that unleashes scene after scene of finger-in-socket silliness.

Chris Alexander/Metro Canada

Fighting

●●

REVIEW You wouldn't assume from its title that Fighting has surprisingly little conflict. I'm not talking about drag-down, split-lip knuckle-dusters. Oh, there's plenty of that. But in-between those striking sequences, Fighting is flat-out stagnant. Directed by punk musician-turned-filmmaker Dito Montiel, Fighting tells the story of street-wise Shawn (Channing Tatum), a money-hungry hustler (with a seeming inability to form facial expressions) who discovers the world of underground fist-fighting through a con man named Harvey (Terrence Howard).

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past

●

REVIEW Matthew McConaughey stars as Matthew McConaughey, though we're told he's playing Connor Mead, a celebrity photographer and serial womanizer. He ventures home for the wedding of his brother, played by Breckin Meyer and proceeds to bah-humbug the whole celebration in a not-terribly-convincing down-with-love drunken tirade. Of course, there to challenge his status quo is the one who got away, played begrudgingly by Jennifer Garner.

Ned Ehrbar/Metro Canada

Hannah Montana: The Movie

●●●

REVIEW If you're not the parent of a 10 year-old girl, perhaps the phenomenon that is the hit TV show-turned-movie Hannah Montana has somehow escaped your world. For such uneducated souls, let me bring you up to speed. Miley Cyrus plays Miley Stewart, a simple country-girl who also just happens to lead a double-life as Hannah Montana, the most famous pop star in the world. In the big-screen adaptation, Miley's alter-ego is becoming too bloated for her own good, and is forced by her dad to take a break from the life of a pop princess.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Monsters vs. Aliens

●●●●

REVIEW There's something refreshing about a movie with a title that tells you everything you need to know about it. Part Plan 9 from Outer Space, part The Dirty Dozen, Monsters vs. Aliens is all about good, old-fashioned escapism. Just don't pay too close attention to the plot holes and lazy exposition. The movie has an all-star cast, the kind only possible in an animated movie, led by Reese Witherspoon as Susan, a bride-to-be who grows to five stories tall after being walloped by a radioactive meteor on her wedding day.

Ned Ehrbar/Metro World

Obsessed

●

REVIEW For a movie that's being marketed as "this year's sexiest thriller," Obsessed certainly lacks some key components. Like sex and thrills for starters. In fact, motivated characters, a sharper script and a consistent tone wouldn't have hurt the value of this so-called thriller either. In the neutered Fatal Attraction-wannabe, Idris Elba (Rockn-Rolla) plays Derek Charles, a successful executive who suddenly finds himself the mark of an attractive office temp named Lisa (Ali Larter).

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

The Soloist

●●●½

REVIEW Between its infamous rescheduling out of Oscar season last year and star Robert Downey Jr.'s hilarious diatribe in Tropic Thunder about the perils of playing mentally ill on film, it's hard to watch The Soloist without that little golden guy tapping on your shoulder. Sure, Jamie Foxx makes a good schizophrenic homeless Juilliard dropout, but an Oscar-worthy one? On the other hand, Downey's Steve Lopez is a fantastic mix of world-weary cynicism and innate curiosity.

Ned Ehrbar/Metro World

Star Trek

●●●●

REVIEW In what could easily have been Star Trek: The College Years, the film brings together the crew of the USS Enterprise for their maiden voyage to do battle with a black hole-building Romulan with a chip on his shoulder (Eric Bana, with Mike Tyson-like face tattoos). In the midst of the crisis, the filmmakers reinvigorate well-worn heroes Kirk (Chris Pine) and Spock (Zachary Quinto) by sprinkling on liberal amounts of daddy issues.

Ned Ehrbar/Metro Canada

State of Play

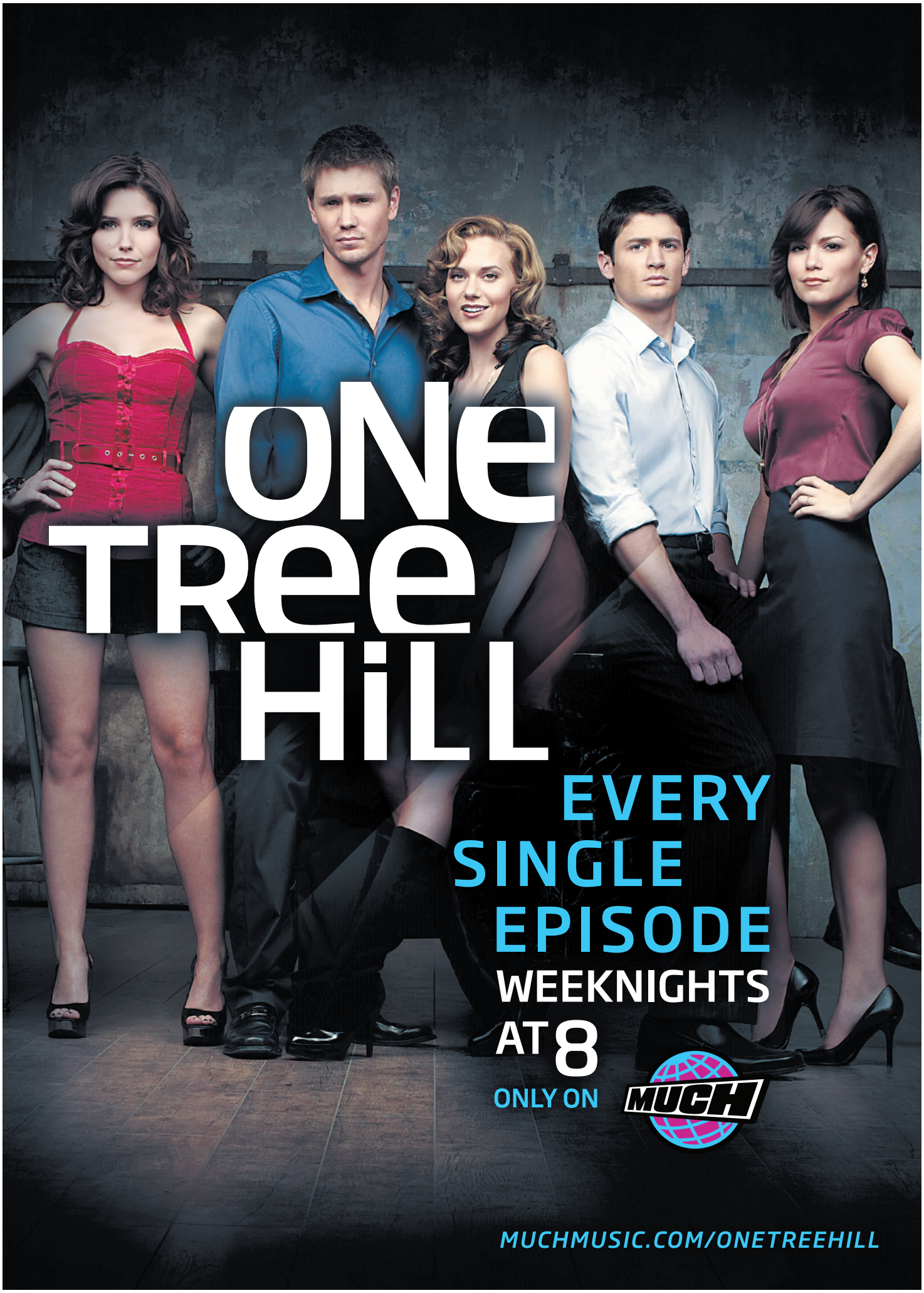
●●●½

REVIEW In his fictional follow-up to The Last King of Scotland, director Kevin Macdonald perfectly casts Russell Crowe as Cal McAffrey, a shaggy, junk food-devouring journalist who slowly connects the dots to a series of seemingly unrelated events — including the mysterious death of the mistress of a former-college roommate/now-star Congressman (Ben Affleck). Taking an eager cub reporter under his wing, McAffrey slowly uncovers a conspiracy.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

HollywoodRants

Read the blog at metronews.ca/hollywoodrants


ONE TREE HILL
EVERY SINGLE EPISODE
WEEKNIGHTS AT 8
ONLY ON
MUCH
MUCHMUSIC.COM/ONETREEHILL

McAvoy, Banks join comedy cast
James McAvoy, left, Elizabeth Banks, Laura Linney and Anna Friel have signed on to star in Jacob Estes' black comedy, The Details. EMPIREONLINE.COM

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Lights, camera, upper cut

InFocus

Richard Crouse
metronews.ca/infocus

I'm not a boxing fan but I once paid $25 to watch a pay-per-view Mike Tyson fight. It was the mid 1980s and Iron Mike was one of the most famous and controversial men on the planet; a beast who won 26 of his first 28 matches by knockout — 16 in the first round.

Wondering what all the fuss was about I paid my cover charge and watched as the undisputed champ strut into the ring, sized up his opponent and laid him out, unconscious on the floor in less than thirty seconds.

I know $25 for less than a minute of entertainment may sound pricey, but it was a riveting thirty seconds and even now, more than twenty years later, I can remember the look of devastating determination on his face as he massacred his challenger.

It's an expression that runs across his (now tattooed) face several times in the fascinating new documentary Tyson.

The film is a raw, revealing look at this troubled but fascinating man.

"It's like a Greek tragedy," he says of the movie, "only I'm the subject."

Tyson is just the latest boxer to get the big screen treatment. Audiences can't seem to get enough of stories about the "sweet science" and the individual struggles of these modern day gladiators.

Everybody knows Rocky, Cinderella Man and Raging Bull but digging a little deeper reveals splendid movies that aren't as well known.

James Earl Jones, left, played Jack Johnson, the first African-American world heavyweight champion in The Great White Hope. Above, Paul Newman fit the gloves of boxing legend Rocky Graziano in Somebody Up There Like Me.

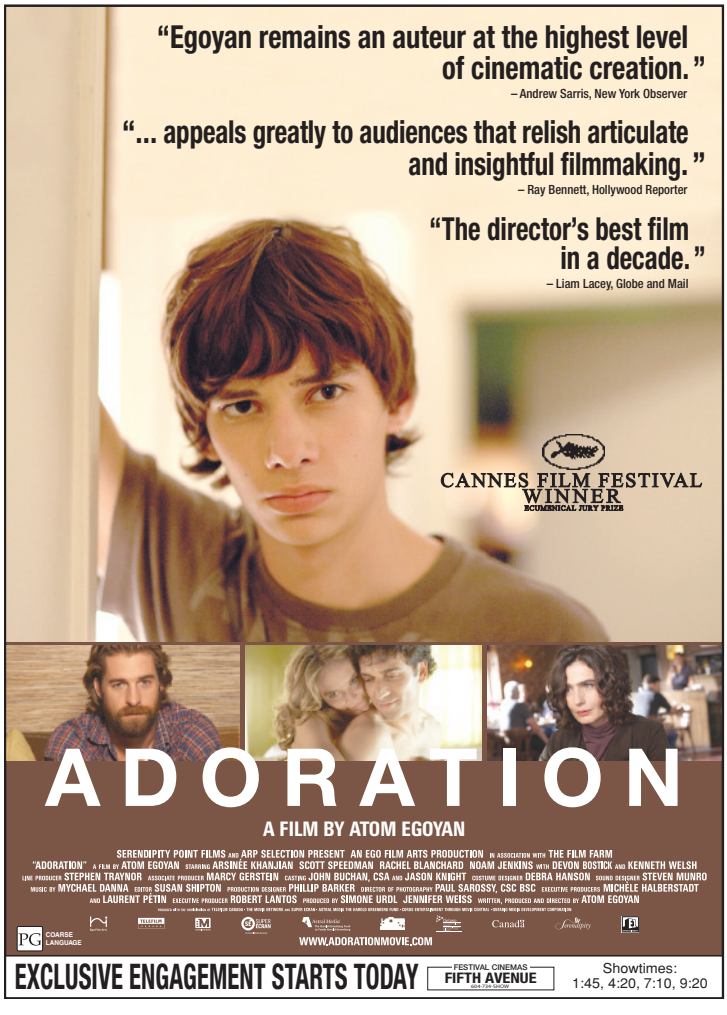
Somebody Up There Likes Me stars Paul Newman (stepping in for James Dean who died just before filming began) as real life middleweight champion of the world Rocky Graziano. The fighter is portrayed as a tough kid from New York's "lower East Side where both sides of the tracks were wrong" whose violent and callous ways are changed by the redemptive power of the love of a good woman.

It sounds a like a mushy love story — and in fact, inspired Sylvester Stallone when he was writing the Adrian storyline in Rocky — but the fight scenes are brutal and authentic.

Also worth a rental is The Great White Hope based on Jack Johnson, (played by Darth Vader himself, James Earl Jones) the first African-American world heavyweight champ, who ruled the ring from 1908 to 1915. Good fight scenes bolster this powerful look at the racial hostility that plagued Johnson's career and it's likely the only boxing movie written in the poetic style of free verse.

There are plenty of others; top of my list are Requiem for A Heavyweight and The Harder They Fall. Both are excellent, and both provide way more than thirty seconds of entertainment for your money.

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; mrchaos33@hotmail.com.



Cineplex | Empire | AMC | Alliance Atlantis | ATNY | Criterion | Independent

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY 8 TO THURS., MAY 14. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

VANCOUVER

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Beavers (STC) Fri-Thu 12-2:05-4 Fri 7:30
Extra Large Shorts (STC) Sat 7:30
Journey Into Amazing Caves (STC) Fri-Thu 5
Roving Mars (G) Fri-Thu 1
Van Gogh: Brush With Genius (STC) Fri-Thu 11-3 Fri-Sat 8:30

CN IMAX THEATRE
201-999 Canada Place, 604-682-4629

Deep Sea 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12-4-6
Space Station 3D (G) Fri-Thu 2-5
U2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 8
Under the Sea 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1-3-7

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) Fri 7-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-3:45-7-9:45 Mon-Thu 7-9:45

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

Adoration (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:20-7:10-9:20
Lymelife (14A) Fri-Thu 2-4:30-7:30-9:35
Sin Nombre (14A) Fri-Tue 2:15-4:40-7:20-9:25 Wed 2:15-4:40-9:25 Thu 2:15-4:40-7:20-9:25
The Soloist (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-6:50-9:30
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-7-9:45

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Adventureland (14A) Fri 7:05-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:05-7:05-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:05-8:30
Anvil! The Story of Anvil (14A) Fri 7:25-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:25-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:25-8:20
Crank: High Voltage (18A) Fri 7:10-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:10-7:10-9:25 Mon-Thu 6:10-8:25
Duplicity (PG) Fri 7-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:05-4-7-9:45 Mon-Thu 6-8:45
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri 7:15-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:15-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:15-8:35
Sunshine Cleaning (14A) Fri 7:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:20-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:20-8:40
Watchmen (18A) Fri-Thu 8

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211

Defiance (14A) Fri 9:40 Sat-Sun 3:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 9:40
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) DTS Digital Fri 7 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1-4-7 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 7
Star Trek (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 7:15-10:15 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 7:15-10:15
State of Play (PG) DTS Digital Fri-Thu 9:30
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) DTS Digital, No Passes Fri 7:30-10 DTS Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10 DTS Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 7:30-10

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456

Dim (STC) Mon 7:30
Examined Life (STC) Fri 9:20 Sun 7:30
Only (STC) Wed 7:30
Ratcatcher (14A) Wed 9:15
Trouble the Water (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat 7:30-9:20 Sun 9:15

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Earth (G) Fri 4-7-9 Sat-Sun 2-4-7-9 Mon-Thu 4-7-9

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) Fri 4-7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7-9:30 Mon-Tue 4-7-9:30 Wed 1-4-7-9:30 Thu 4-7-9:30

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film

Dr. Strangelove Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb (STC) Sat
The Party (STC) Sat 12
Phantom of the Paradise (STC) Fri
Repo! The Genetic Opera (18A) Fri 12
Star Trek (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

17 Again (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:40-6:50-9:30
Angels & Demons (14A) No Passes Thu 12:01
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri 1-4:10-7:20-10:15 Sat 4:10-7:20-10:15 Sun-Tue 1-4:10-7:20-10:15 Wed 1-4:10-10:15 Thu 1-4:10-7:20-10:15
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 9:30
Star Trek (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-3:20-6:30-9:50 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-7:10-20 No Passes Fri 1:10-4:20-7:30-10:40 No Passes Sat 10-1:10-4:20-7:30-10:40 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:10-4:20-7:30-10:40
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:20-12:50-1:40-3:30-4-4:50-6:40-7:10-8-9:40-10:10-10:50 No Passes Wed 12:20-12:50-1:35-3:30-4-4:50-7:10-8-9:40-10:10-10:50 No Passes Thu 12:20-12:50-1:40-3:30-4-4:50-7:10-8-9:40-10:10-10:50 No Passes Fri 1:20-4:30-7:40-10:30 No Passes Sat 10:15-1:20-4:30-7:40-10:30 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:20-4:30-7:40-10:30

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799

Earth (G) Fri-Thu 12:20-2:30-4:45-7-9:15
Fast & Furious (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 2-4:35-7:10-9:45
Fighting (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:05-2:35-5-7:35-10:05
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:45-4:15-6:45-9:20 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30
Lemon Tree (G) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:50-4:25-7:05-9:40 No Passes Mon 1:50-4:25-9:40 No Passes Tue-Thu 1:50-4:25-7:05-9:40
Mothers & Daughters (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-2:45-4:50-7:15-9:50
Obsessed (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:40-5:05-7:40-10:20
The Soloist (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-2:05-3:30-4:55-6:20-7:45-9:10-10:35
State of Play (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:25
Tyson (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-2:25-4:40-7:20-9:35

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre 1181 Seymour St., 604-683-Film

Persepolis (PG) Fri-Sat 9:45
A Scanner Darkly (14A) Fri-Sat 11:30
Sita Sings the Blues (STC) Fri 6:30-8:10 Sat 4-6:30-8:10 Tue-Thu 6:30-8:10

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 4:40-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Earth (G) Fri 7:05-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:45-4:15-7:05-9:10 Mon-Thu 7:05-9:10
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:20-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20
Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri 7:15-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:50-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:40
The Soloist (PG) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:35-4:10-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:50
Star Trek (PG) No Passes Fri 7-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:10-4-7-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-10 No Passes Fri 6:30-9:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:30-9:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

17 Again (PG) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:30
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 9:30
Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (G) Fri 7:10-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:10-2:30-4:45-7:10-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:45
Obsessed (PG) Fri 6:40-9:40 Sat 3:10-6:40-9:40 Sun 12:20-3:10-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
State of Play (PG) Fri 6:45-9:35 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:20-6:45-9:35 Mon-Tue 6:45-9:35 Wed 9:35 Thu 6:45-9:35
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) No Passes Fri 6:30-7-9:20-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 12-12:45-3-3:40-6:30-7-9:20-9:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:30-7-9:20-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

17 Again (PG) Fri 4:30-7:15-9:35 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:15-9:35 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:15
Fighting (PG) Fri-Sat 9:30 Sun-Thu 7:25
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri 4:35-7:20-9:40 Sat 1:40-4:35-7:20-9:40 Sun 1:40-4:35-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:20
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri 4:25-6:55 Sat 1:35-4:25-6:55 Sun 1:35-4:25 Mon-Thu 4:25
Star Trek (PG) No Passes Fri 4:10-7-9:50 No Passes Sat 1:15-4:10-7-9:50 No Passes Sun 1:15-4:10-7 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:10-7
State of Play (PG) Fri 4:15-7:05-9:55 Sat 1:20-4:15-7:05-9:55 Sun 1:20-4:15-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:05
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) No Passes Fri 4:20-7:10-9:45 No Passes Sat 1:25-4:20-7:10-9:45 No Passes Sun 1:25-4:20-7:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:20-7:10

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

17 Again (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:25-6:55-9:55
Angels & Demons (14A) No Passes Thu 12:01
Earth (G) Fri-Wed 1-3:35-6:45-9:50 Thu 3:35-6:50-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Fast & Furious (14A) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:25-7:45-10:25
Fighting (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:45-7:50-10:45
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:05-7:05-10:20
Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:40-7:15-9:40
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:50-9:35
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 9:30
Monsters vs. Aliens: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri 1:30-4:15-7-9:25 Sat-Thu 1:30-4:15-7-9:30
Munde U.K. De (Punjabi w/e.s.t.) (G) Fri-Thu 12:35-4-8
Obsessed (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:30-7:40-10:35
Star Trek (PG) No Passes Fri-Wed 12-12:45-3:30-4-7-7:30-10:30-10:45 No Passes Thu 12-3:30-4-7-7:30-10:30-10:45 No Passes Fri-Wed 11:30-3-6:30-10 No Passes Thu 11:30-3-6:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
State of Play (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:50-10:15
This American Life (STC) Mon 7
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-12:10-12:30-1:05-2:35-3-3:40-4:15-5:40-6:40-7:10-7:35-8:20-9:45-10:10-10:40

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Star Trek (PG) Fri 4:30-7-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:30
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) Fri 5-7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-5-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 5-7:15-9:30

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

17 Again (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:30-4:55-7:25-10
Angels & Demons (14A) No Passes Thu 12:01
Earth (G) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:35-5-7:30-9:50
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:55-7:10-10:15
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 9:30
Obsessed (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-4-7:25-10:25
Star Trek (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-12:45-3:30-4:05-7-7:30-10:15-10:35 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:45-7:15-10:25
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:55-12:20-3:10-3:35-6:40-7:10-9:35-10:10 No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4:15-7:35-10:40

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Crank: High Voltage (18A) Fri-Sat 5-9:40 Sun 5-7:25 Mon-Thu 7:25
Fast & Furious (14A) Fri 4:40-7:20-9:50 Sat 1:55-4:40-7:20-9:50 Sun 1:55-4:40-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:20
Fighting (PG) Fri 4:50-7:30-9:55 Sat 2:05-4:50-7:30-9:55 Sun 2:05-4:50-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:30
Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri 4:45-7-9:35 Sat 2:10-4:45-7-9:35 Sun 2:10-4:45-7 Mon-Thu 4:45-7
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri 7:25 Sat 2-7:25 Sun 2 Mon-Thu 5
Knowing (14A) Fri 4:35-7:05-9:45 Sat 1:50-4:35-7:05-9:45 Sun 1:50-4:35-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:05
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri 4:55-7:15-9:30 Sat 2:15-4:55-7:15-9:30 Sun 2:15-4:55-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:55-7:15
State of Play (PG) Fri 4:30-7:10-9:50 Sat 1:45-4:30-7:10-9:50 Sun 1:45-4:30-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:10

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

17 Again (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-7:20-9:55
Adventureland (14A) Fri-Thu 7:25-10:15
Angels & Demons (14A) No Passes Thu 12:01
Earth (G) Fri-Tue 12:50-3:15-7:20-9:50 Wed 3:15-7:20-9:50 Thu 12:50-3:15-7:20-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Fast & Furious (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:05-6:45-10:35
Fighting (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:40-7:35-10:20
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:05-7:05-9:55
Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:35-6:55-9:50
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:35-7:30-10:15
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 9:30
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4
Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:35-9:15
Obsessed (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:55-7:05-10:10
Star Trek (PG) No Passes Fri-Mon 11:30-12:15-12:45-1-2:45-3:30-4-4:30-6:45-7-7:30-7:45-10-10:15-10:45-10:50 No Passes Tue 11:30-12:15-12:45-1-2:45-3:30-4-4:30-6:45-7-7:30-7:45-10-10:15-10:45-11 No Passes Wed 11:30-12:15-12:45-2:45-3:30-4-4:30-6:45-7-7:30-7:45-10-10:15-10:45-10:50 No Passes Thu 11:30-12:15-12:45-1-2:45-3:30-4-4:30-6:45-7-7:30-7:45-10-10:15-10:45-11 Star & Strollers, No Passes Wed 1
State of Play (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:10-25
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 12-12:30-3-3:35-6:30-6:50-9:30-9:45 No Passes Mon-Tue 12-12:30-3-3:35-6:30-6:45-9:30-9:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 12-12:30-3-3:30-6:30-6:50-9:30-9:45 No Passes Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:15-10:05 No Passes Fri-Sun 1:30-4:35-7:50-10:50 No Passes Mon-Tue 1:30-4:35-7:45-10:50 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-4:35-7:50-10:50

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) Fri-Sat 7-9:10 Sun-Thu 7

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Crank: High Voltage (18A) Fri-Thu 8:30
Fast & Furious (14A) Fri 7-9:05 Sat-Sun 2:30-7-9:05 Mon-Thu 7-9:05
Fighting (PG) Fri-Thu 6:30
Hotel for Dogs (G) Sat-Sun 12-2:30
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri-Thu 4:30
Knowing (14A) Fri-Thu 8:40
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Sat-Sun 12
Race to Witch Mountain (PG) Fri 4:30-6:30 Sat-Sun 2:25-4:30-6:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-6:30
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Sat-Sun 12
State of Play (PG) Fri-Thu 4:30

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

17 Again (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:35-5-7:35-10
Angels & Demons (14A) No Passes Thu 12:01
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Tue 12:35-3:40-7:25-10:10 Wed 3:40-7:25-10:10 Thu 12:35-3:40-7:25-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Mini Punjab (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-4:20-7:40
Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:30-4:45-7:20-9:30
Munde U.K. De (Punjabi w/e.s.t.) (G) Fri-Thu 12-12:45-3:30-4:30-8-8:30
Obsessed (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:35-6:50-9:40
Star Trek (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:30-1:15-3:45-4:15-6:45-7:15-9:45-10:15 No Passes Wed 1:15-3:45-4:15-6:45-7:15-9:45-10:15 No Passes Thu 12:30-1:15-3:45-4:15-6:45-7:15-9:45-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Tera Mera Ki Rishta (Punjabi w/e.s.t.) (G) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:50-7:30
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-1-3:25-4-6:40-7-9:20-9:50

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

17 Again (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05
Fast & Furious (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 4:40-10:10
Fighting (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-7:25
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55-6:55-9:55
Munde U.K. De (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, Sub-Titled Fri-Sat 12:40-4:20-8 Dolby Stereo Digital, Sub-Titled, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:40-4:20-8
Obsessed (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:05
The Soloist (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:40-6:40-9:40
Star Trek (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-1-3:30-4-6:30-7-9:30-10 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:45-1:15-1:45-3:45-4:15-4:45-6:45-7:15-7:45-9:45-10:15-10:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:45-1:15-1:45-3:45-4:15-4:45-6:45-7:15-7:45-9:45-10:15-10:45

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527, criterientheatres.com

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri 7:10-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:15 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:15
The Soloist (PG) Fri 7-9:10 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:10 Mon-Thu 7-9:10

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Hwy., 604-531-7456

17 Again (PG) Fri 7:05-9:05 Sat-Sun 2:20-7:05-9:05 Mon-Thu 7:05-9:05
Star Trek (PG) Fri 7:15-9:35 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:15-9:35 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:35
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) Fri 7-7:30-9:10-9:40 Sat-Sun 2-2:30-7-7:30-9:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 7-7:30-9:10-9:40

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

17 Again (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-7:05-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:05-9:50
Angels & Demons (14A) No Passes Thu 12:01
Earth (G) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:30-5-7:35-10:20 Mon-Thu 5-7:35-10:20
Fast & Furious (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-7:25 Mon-Thu 7:25
Fighting (PG) Fri-Thu 3:40-10:20
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:40-6:50-9:40 Mon-Thu 3:40-6:50-9:40
Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:35-6:35-9:20 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:35-9:20
I Love You, Man (14A) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:50-7:20-10:05 Mon-Thu 3:50-7:20-10:05
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 9:30
Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:40-2-4:25-7:15-9:45 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:15-9:45
Monsters vs. Aliens: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:30-6:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:45-9:15
Obsessed (PG) Fri-Sun 1:05-4:05-7:15-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:15-10:10
Star Trek (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:30-12:12:30-2:45-3:15-3:45-6-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15 No Passes Mon-Tue 3:30-3:45-6-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15 No Passes Wed 3:45-6-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15 No Passes Thu 3:30-3:45-6-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15 No Passes Fri-Sun 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:15-7:30-10:45 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 3
State of Play (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:55-7:15-10:25 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:15-10:25
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:45-12:15-12:45-1:15-3-3:30-4-4:30-6:10-6:40-7:10-7:40-9-9:30-10-10:30 No Passes Mon-Tue 3:30-4-4:30-6:10-6:40-7:10-7:40-9-9:30-10-10:30 No Passes Wed 3:30-4:30-6:10-6:40-7:10-7:40-9-9:30-10-10:30 No Passes Thu 3:30-4-4:30-6:10-6:40-7:10-7:40-9-9:30-10-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 3

TWILIGHT DRIVE-IN
260th Street & Fraser Highway, Langley, 604-856-5063

12 Rounds (PG) A.M. Fri-Sat 1:15
Knowing (14A) Fri-Thu 11
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (STC) Fri-Thu 9

Amazon.ca's bestselling albums
1. Quiet Nights, Diana Krall (left); 2. Live In London, Leonard Cohen; 3. Passione, Paul Potts; 4. Together Through Life, Bob Dylan; 5. Songs Around The World, Playing for Change. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

A number of emerging music services offer on-demand streams.

On-demand streams could be next big thing

SoundCheck

Alan Cross

metronews.ca/soundcheck

For most people, obtaining music involves a transactional experience. I give you money and in exchange, you give me a piece of plastic (a CD, a record, a tape) or access to a digital file (iTunes, eMusic, etc.) At the end of the transaction, I possess (own) a copy of the performance. And it will remain mine until I throw it away or delete it from my hard drive.

But this idea of possessing music is becoming a rather quaint notion. Think about it: If you're able to access whatever song you want from wherever you are at whatever time on any device you choose, why on Earth would you ever need to physically possess a piece of plastic or a digital file?

This is the thinking behind a number of emerging music services that offer on-demand streams. Spotify (not available in Canada) allows users to instantly access specific songs or albums through your computer. Although you need a wired Internet connection now, coders are working on an application for the iPhone, Google's Android platform and Wi-Fi. Spotify is free, but that might change once it's out of beta.

We7 is a U.K. service that does much the same thing with the complete blessing of the major labels. Part of its business model involves running ads that they called "blipverts" before songs.

In both cases, the consumer doesn't have to pay for anything. The value for the streaming company and its label partners comes from the data they capture from you. By registering with these services, companies know who you are, what you're listening to and what kind of device you're using. Theoretically, this allows them to better target you with recommendations. It also means better targeting for advertisers, but most people don't mind being subjected to ads as long as they're for goods and services in which they might be interested.

The thinking here is twofold: The music "feels" free to the consumer. It's like having the world's biggest hard drive full of music without having to pay for anything — or without out it taking up space on the shelf or the hard drive. Second, if you can get all the music you want, it should cut down on piracy.

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

Paul Potts has a plan

British tenor and reality TV champ is back with a new album

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada

Paul Potts has two keys to survival in the spotlight, which he'd like to share with current Britain's Got Talent contestant Susan Boyle: Take it day-by-day, and eat healthy.

The British tenor and 2007 winner of the variety show is great at sticking to the first. The other one? Not so much, but it's something he's trying to change as he jets across the globe in promotion of his second release, Passione. Accompanied by the Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Potts mixes classic operatic numbers and contemporary hits (Procol Harum's A Whiter Shade of Pale is decidedly different when sung in that style).

Though Passione's lineup had to be approved by BGT judge Simon Cowell, Potts had more input this time around into whittling down 60 potential songs onto the 10-track release than on his debut, One Chance.

"I wanted the songs to reflect many different kinds of passion," says the Bristol native and former cellphone store manager. "They're simple tunes, but incredibly beautiful, I think. Some of them are quite a challenge for a tenor to sing, quite rangey, which is what I wanted. We had more time to record it, so we were able to pace it better."

And pace is something he'll have to keep up over the next little while as he tours. Noting diabetes runs in the family, Potts says it's important to keep the strict diet that helped him shed six kilograms since January — especially in North America where he says steakhouses abound in comparison to Europe. It's the home-cooking Potts misses the most on the road, a link to normalcy (he gestures quotes with his fingers when he says it) between stints in the bright lights.

"I used to travel on a bike but now I travel here, there and everywhere," he said. "I still do things the way I've always done. I end up doing the shopping at home — my wife hates it — and people come up to me like I'm crazy. They ask me haven't I got someone to do my shopping for me. Well no, why should I? I'd have to make a list and be organized if I did that."

As for a duet with Boyle, his BGT contemporary who became an overnight sensation much like he did two years before, he won't rule it out. Though he doesn't think that far ahead, and he advises her not to either, at least not past a performance.

"I would perform as if nothing's going to happen after it, because otherwise you put a lot of pressure on yourself and you think, 'This could happen, that could happen,'" he said. "You should never concentrate on the What Ifs. You should concentrate on what you have in front of you, right here and now."

SONY MUSIC PHOTO

Accompanied by the Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Britain's Got Talent winner Paul Potts mixes classic operatic numbers and contemporary hits on his latest album, Passione.

> **"I wanted the songs to reflect many different kinds of passion ... They're simple tunes, but incredibly beautiful."**
> Paul Potts

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Billboard's top albums
1. Together Through Life, Bob Dylan (right); **2.** Hannah Montana Soundtrack, Various Artists; **3.** Unstoppable, Rascal Flatts; **4.** Deeper Than Rap, Rick Ross; **5.** The Fame, Lady GaGa. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Bif Naked makes a Promise

Rocker worked on new disc while fighting breast cancer

ROB MCMAHON
for Metro Canada

Bif Naked thrives on regimen: The Vancouver-based rocker is up at dawn to exercise and maintains a straight-edge lifestyle.

But after her diagnosis for breast cancer in January 2008 and subsequent treatment, that all changed.

"I'm a raw food vegan — I've been doing that a long time — but one month all I wanted was yam rolls, and they're definitely not raw," Naked said, laughing. "To this day, I can barely look at beets. I used to devour beet juice, and ate grated beets on salad every day, but now I can't stand the smell."

Despite these challenges, Naked (real name Beth Torbert) powered through writing and recording a new album. Titled The Promise, the disc is the culmination of months spent with producer, guitarist and "taskmaster" Jason Darr.

Reached a day before the album's release, Naked was recovering from ovarian surgery. But despite a long run of media interviews, the singer was gregarious and upbeat, joking if she hadn't been in the hospital, she would have hit the gym.

"I think the number one thing as a friend and family member, is to go with that person to chemo, keep them company." Bif Naked

Speaking about chemotherapy, she said the physiological setbacks impacted the recording process, as did ever-changing scheduling.

"Every chemo (treatment) is different — you can't find any consistency," she said. "At one point I was in the hospital for 20 days straight. My larynx gland was so swollen I couldn't swallow ... I was incapacitated for almost a month. Sometimes it seemed like the album would never come to light, but it did, thanks in part to (Jason) Darr, my taskmaster."

The Promise, the new album from Vancouver rocker Bif Naked, was released this week.

The resulting disc features Naked's raw singing, layered over guitar-heavy pop punk. Images of hair falling out (on Amazon Motel) and a song titled Sick may cause fans to automatically reach to recent events for interpretation.

But Naked said the songs are just as rooted in the emotion that powers her creativity: Love. Along with the support of her husband, family, friends and fans, she found love while healing alongside other patients, who became good friends.

"A lot of people will always assume if it's is a sad song, it must be about chemo: 'Oh, here's another sad song, it must be about chemo.' No!" she said. "(Cancer) can be very isolating ... There are a million and one books on cancer, but I think the number one thing as a friend and family member, is to go with that person to chemo, keep them company if they want it, and check up with them every day."

In brief

THIS DAY IN MUSIC HISTORY:
In 1993, Aerosmith's Get a Grip debuts on the Billboard 200 top pop album chart at No. 1, making it the group's highest-debuting album and highest-charting album ever.
REUTERS

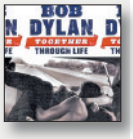
TOP 10
MOBILE DOWNLOADS
1 Right Round Flo Rida
2 Boom Boom Pow Black Eyed Peas
3 Kiss Me Thru The Phone Soulja Boy
4 Day 'N' Nite Kid Cudi
5 Crack a Bottle Eminem
6 Dead And Gone T.I.
7 Beautiful Akon
8 I'm On A Boat Lonely Island
9 LoveGame Lady Gaga
10 Love Sex Magic Ciara
rogers.com/musicstore
ROGERS

On the web
There's more online at metronews.ca/music:
- Read the latest music news

Metro recommends

• Fortress Round My Heart, Ida Maria:
Maria's intense, raspy vocals add some fury and fun to her band's energetic pop-punk sound.

• Together Through Life, Bob Dylan:
Guest accordion and guitar players help Dylan deliver rootsy blues-rock tunes on life and love.



• Honey Moon, The Handsome Family:
Alt-country couple broaden their repertoire of twangy ballads by incorporating elements of soul and doo-wop.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Small screen to big screen

Derek Hough could be adding movie star to his resume. The Dancing With the Stars pro confirms that he could be waltzing into the upcoming Footloose remake. "I haven't auditioned, but I've met with the people," Hough said. **EONLINE.COM**

Television

Leo-nominated actor Benjamin Arthur from TV's Less Than Kind.

TV persona parallels actor

Less Than Kind's Benjamin Arthur is up for a Leo Award for his role as Josh

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Actor Benjamin Arthur says there's a lot of himself in his Josh Blecher character on TV's Less Than Kind.

Which is a surprise. Though they are both actors, Josh is also a conceited bully/exhibitionist with little ambition who takes great delight in torturing his younger brother.

"I'm in there, absolutely," says Arthur, 28, whose Less Than Kind role has been nominated for a Leo Award.

"I was preparing for the part for 28 years. But I'm a 'one' normally. And you need to turn the dial up to 10 to play Josh."

Now filming its second season, Less Than Kind is a dark comedy about a dysfunctional Winnipeg family and its perpetually embarrassed teen son Sheldon (Jesse Camacho).

It's Sheldon's poor luck in life to be stuck with a self-destructive criminal dad (Maury Chaykin), and pyromaniac mom (Wendel Meldrum). Then there's brother Josh, whose idea of high comedy is to shake his "junk" in Sheldon's face (which he does in Arthur's Leo-nominated episode).

> **"I'm a 'one' normally. And you need to turn the dial up to 10 to play Josh."**
> Actor Benjamin Arthur, Less than Kind

"Josh runs completely off of bravado and ego. He's pure manic energy," says Arthur.

The actor admits he needed some of that excess energy to stay warm during the making of the first season of Less Than Kind, which was shot in the dead of winter in Winnipeg.

"Last season was ridiculous. I mean, I lived in Kitimat (B.C.), so I'm used to cold. But this was like minus 52 C. You had 55 seconds of shooting before you have to stop or your skin freezes. And I'm there dressed in my torn Josh jeans and V-neck T-shirt."

Arthur says his nomination for a Leo Award — given to the best in British Columbian film and television — is a big deal to a guy from Kitimat, though a little bit weird.

"It's for Best Supporting Actor In A Dramatic Series. But I'm in a comedy. So I'm up against actors in serious shows like The Guard. I can see them announcing my nomination by running a clip of me shaking it naked."

• The Leo Awards will be presented this weekend in Vancouver.

FRIDAY 5/8/09

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	News (N)	Laughs	Winnipeg Comedy Festival		CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National (N)		The Hour (N)
	255	358	6 JOY	E News	The Insider	THS Investigates: Dating Nightmares Dating. (CC)				20/20 (CC)		News (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	Ghost Whisperer (N) (CC)		Flashpoint "Last Dance" (N)		Spectacle: Elivs		News (N)
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	Malcolm-Mid.	Prison Break (N) (PA) (CC)		(:01) Dollhouse "Omega"		NUMB3RS "Greatest Hits"		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Medium Allison leaves the district attorney's office. (N)				Whistler "Meltdown"		News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Mantracker "Mark & Taylor"		Departures (CC)		Out There	Out There	The List
	-	-	14 CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	Hates Chris	The Game (N)	America's Next Top Model		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Ghost Whisperer (N) (CC)		Flashpoint "Last Dance" (N)		NUMB3RS "Greatest Hits"		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Howie Do It	Howie Do It	Dateline NBC (CC)				News (N)
	288	380	41 ABC	Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Happy Feet ★★★ (2006) Voices of Elijah Wood. Premiere.				20/20 (CC)		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Prison Break (N) (PA) (CC)		(:01) Dollhouse "Omega"		News (N)	Most Wanted	Family Guy
news	502	390	26 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		CBC News: the fifth estate		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Oakland Athletics. (Subject to Blackout) (Live)						Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			NASCAR Racing Nationwide Series -- Diamond Hill Plywood 200. (CC)					SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	Spectacular! (2009) Nolan Gerard Funk. Premiere. (CC)				Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Family Biz	Adrenaline	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	Batman	Spider-Man	Wolverine	Justice	Futurama	Batman & Robin ★ (1997) Arnold Schwarzenegger. (CC)			
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	For King and Empire (CC)		Poirot (N) (CC)		Life Begins (N) (CC)		Twist ★★ (1992) Premiere. (CC)		
	575	583	20 CMT	The Con ★★ (1998, Drama) Rebecca De Mornay, William H. Macy.					Candid C.	The Con ★★ (1998) Rebecca De Mornay.		
	615	520	31 A&E	CSI: Miami "Inside Out"		Criminal Minds (CC)		CSI: Miami "Dangerous Son"		CSI: Miami "Cyber-lebrity"		CSI: Miami
	521	560	34 TLC	Dress	Dress	What Not to Wear (CC)		Dress	Dress	What Not to Wear "Dottie"		Weddings
	616	522	39 SHO	The Outer Limits (CC)		The Best Years "Notorious"		Testees	Kenny	Webdreams	Sin Cities	Wife Swap
	294	650	57 TBS	(6:00) Ocean's Eleven ★★★ (2001) (CC)			(:40) My Boys	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	(:10) The Pelican Brief ★★★ (1993) (PA)		
	603	561	62 FN	Diners	Diners	Ramsay's Kitchen		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Dinner	Diners
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:25) Numb (2007) (CC)		Mongol ★★★ (2007) Tadanobu Asano, Honglei Sun.				(:15) Beowulf ★★ (2007, Adventure) (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Fantasy Fact.	Nitro Circus	MTV Live	Cribs (CC)	Making-Movie	Fantasy Fact.	Fantasy Fact.	Nitro Circus	MTV

SATURDAY 5/9/09

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	Hockey Night	NHL Hockey: Western Conference Semifinal Game 5 -- Blackhawks at Canucks						News (CC)	Shawshnk
	255	358	6 JOY	Out There	E News	FANatical	Family	A Trick of the Mind (2006, Suspense) Paul Johansson. (CC)				News (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	W-FIVE (CC) (DVS)		Law & Order: SVU		Southland "Two Gangs"		Law & Order "Bailout"		News (N)
	252	336	11 GTV	ET Canada	Masterminds	Currents: Breaking Ranks		Doc "The Great Wall" (CC)		Doc "Choices of the Heart"		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	New Canoe	Island Week	The Road to Avonlea		Kool Countdown (CC)		Comedy Now Matt Billon.		Bravo! Fact
	253	359	13 CITY	Without a Trace (CC)		Murdoch Mysteries		Lost and Delirious ★★★ (2001) Piper Perabo. (CC) (DVS)				Role
	-	-	14 CW	CSI: NY "Cold Reveal"		Boston Legal "Live Big"		Boston Legal (CC)		CSI: NY "Snow Day" (CC)		CSI: Miami
	289	381	15 CBS	Paid Program	Paid Program	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Harper's Island "Thwack"		48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Backroads	Inside Edition	Law & Order: SVU		Southland "Two Gangs"		Law & Order "Bailout"		News (N)
	288	380	41 ABC	NBA Basketball		Backlot Buzz	Fortune	Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat ★★ (2003) Mike Myers.				News
	290	382	23 FOX	NASCAR Racing: Sprint Cup			Cops (CC)	Friends	Friends	News (N)	Most Wanted	MADtv (CC)
news	502	390	26 NW	Doc Zone (N) (CC)		Sat. Report	Weekend	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone (CC)		Sat. Report
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Newsroom		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Newsroom
sports	407	419	22 RSP	English Premier League Soccer Teams TBA.				The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected		Poker
	400	400	30 TSN	NASCAR Racing: Sprint Cup			SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		Motorcycle	2008 World Series of Poker		SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Survive This	Adrenaline	In Real Life "Auto Racing"		Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	Dennis the Menace Strikes Again ★★			Planet Sketch	Futurama	Chicken	Clone High	Rick & Steve	Moral Orel
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic (CC)		Heartbeat "Heirs Apparent"		Midsomer Murders "The Maid in Splendour" (CC)				Jazz
	575	583	20 CMT	Best of CMT Music Awards		The Road Hammers: Live		Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Ult. Coyote Ugly Search		Best, Awards
	615	520	31 A&E	The Sopranos (CC)		The Sopranos "46 Long"		The Andromeda Strain (2008) (Part 2 of 2) Benjamin Bratt.				The Sopranos
	521	560	34 TLC	48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours
	616	522	39 SHO	Mutant X "Nothing to Fear"		Love Notes (2007) Laura Leighton, Antonio Cupo. (CC)				Ghost Rider ★★ (2007) Nicolas Cage. (CC)		
	294	650	57 TBS	(6:15) Catch Me if You Can ★★★ (2002) Tom Hanks (CC)				(:15) Crimson Tide ★★★ (1995) Denzel Washington, Gene Hackman. (CC)				
	603	561	62 FN	Kitchen Nightmares (CC)		The F Word		Challenge (CC)		Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Nightmares
	320	621	60 CEN	Journey-Center of Earth		Journey to the Center of the Earth ★★				(:35) Stardust ★★★ (2007, Fantasy) Claire Danes. (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Canada's Next Top Model		Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	MTV Live	MTV News	After

SUNDAY 5/10/09

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	Geologic Journey (CC)		Shania: A Life in Eight Albums (2005) Meredith Henderson.				CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		News (CC)
	255	358	6 JOY	Extreme Makeover: Home		The Celebrity Apprentice The finalists must produce a VIP party featuring a silent auction.						News (N)
	250	321	9 CTV	Star Wars	Degrassi	The Amazing Race 14 (CC)		Desperate Housewives (N)		(:01) The Mentalist (N) (CC)		News (N)
	252	336	11 GTV	16:9 Picture	Bob & Doug	Simpsons	King of Hill	Family Guy	Amer Dad	(:01) Brothers & Sisters		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Funniest Home Videos		Gossip Girl "Valley Girls" (N)		Cold Case "Into the Blue"		Medium (N) (CC)		New Canoe
	253	359	13 CITY	Two Men	Hates Chris	Friends	Friends	Rock of Love Bus		Crusoe (CC) (DVS)		Role
	-	-	14 CW	(6:30) Jericho	The Spy Who Loved Me ★★★ (1977) Roger Moore, Barbara Bach. (CC)					Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cold Case
	289	381	15 CBS	60 Minutes (CC)		The Amazing Race 14 (CC)		Cold Case "Into the Blue"		The Unit "Unknown Soldier"		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Dateline NBC (CC)		The Celebrity Apprentice The finalists must produce a VIP party featuring a silent auction.						News (N)
	288	380	41 ABC	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives (N)		(:01) Brothers & Sisters		News
	290	382	23 FOX	Sit Down	Amer Dad	Simpsons	King of Hill	Family Guy	Amer Dad	News (N)	Sports	House (CC)
news	502	390	26 NW	Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room ★★★ (2005) (CC)				CBC News: Sunday Night		Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room		
	500	500	33 CNN	Newsroom		Newsroom		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Union
sports	407	419	22 RSP	MLB Baseball		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Baseball	Canucks TV	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Boxing
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Hockey 2009 RBC Cup. From Victoria. (Same-day Tape) (CC)					SportsCentre
family	552	543	25 YTV	(6:00) The Perfect Man ★★ (2005) (CC)			Prank Patrol	In Real Life "The Circus"		Adrenaline	Survive This	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	Jimmy Two	Totally Spies	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	Punch	Life's a Zoo	Life's a Zoo	Rick & Steve
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	National Geographic (CC)		Ghost in the Machine (1988, Mystery) John Thaw. (CC)				Life Begins (N) (CC)		Jazz
	575	583	20 CMT	Shania: Eight Albums		Gone Country	CMT Star	Shania: A Life in Eight Albums				Gone Country
	615	520	31 A&E	CSI: Miami (CC)		CSI: Miami (CC)		CSI: Miami "Death Pool 100"		CSI: Miami "Tunnel Vision"		CSI: Miami
	521	560	34 TLC	The Science of Sex Appeal		Anatomy of Sex (CC)		The Science of Sex Appeal		The Science of Sex Appeal		Shocking
	616	522	39 SHO	The Guard "Live Free"		Mom, Dad and Her (2008, Drama) Melora Hardin. (CC)				Rescue Me "Jimmy" (CC)		The Guard
	294	650	57 TBS	My Cousin Vinny ★★★ (1992, Comedy) Joe Pesci, Marisa Tomei. (CC)					Without a Paddle ★★ (2004, Comedy) Seth Green. (CC)			
	603	561	62 FN	Chef Jeff Project (CC)		At the Table	At the Table	Get on Plate	Food	Iron Chef America (CC)		Chef Jeff
	320	621	60 CEN	(5:45) Speed Racer ★★		Definitely, Maybe ★★★ (2008) Ryan Reynolds. (CC)				Year of the Dog ★★★ (2007) (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		MTV Presents: Summer		Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	After Show

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- Some college education or relevant post-secondary training.

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Metro Vancouver #250-1190 Homer Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 2X6
amy.bjarnason@metronews.ca Application Deadline: Fri., May 15, 2009

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Hargitay optimistic
While ongoing contract negotiations continue to leave the fate her Law & Order: SVU role in question, Mariska Hargitay is optimistic. "I hope so," she told Access Hollywood, when asked if she'll be returning as the NBC cop drama's Olivia Benson. TVGUIDE.COM

Going Out

Mix of Six

Pout Fashion Show
When: Friday
Where: Vogue Theatre

Upcoming designers and stylists from John Casablancas Institute will showcase their stunning designs. Republic Nightclub will be hosting the Pout after party, where a Pout ticket will get you half-price cover.

The Stills
When: Friday
Where: Commodore Ballroom

Canadian rock band, The Stills, will be in concert with Gentleman Reg. The group will perform some from their album Oceans Will Rise, which won two Junos this year including Alternative Album of the Year.

Quest Crew Live
When: Friday
Where: Gossip Nightclub

Quest Crew, the winners of Randy Jackson's America's Best Dance Crew will perform live at Gossip. Dress in purple to show your support for the bboy crew during their first Vancouver performance.

Alex Metric
When: Friday
Where: Shine Nightclub

Hailing from the U.K., Metric will be playing his electronic-pop party music for his upcoming album that is to be released later this month.

Strung Out and Death By Stereo
When: Saturday
Where: Richard's on Richards

Californian punk rockers Strung Out will be playing with Death by Stereo, a hardcore metal-punk fusion band.

Flight of the Conchords
When: Sunday
Where: The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts

The Grammy-Award winning duo will be performing their trademark musical-comedy show. Bret McKenzie and Jemaine Clement are from Wellington, New Zealand, and their HBO Television show has been gaining worldwide popularity.

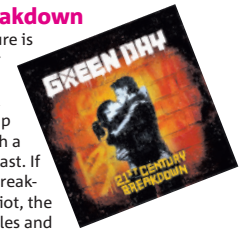
For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit:
metronews.ca/movies

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Star Trek
FILM The latest reboot of the beloved franchise boldly goes where no Star Trek has gone before — the territory of young, Hollywood cool. Trekkies will probably hate the Gen Y avatars of Kirk and Spock (played by Chris Pine and Zachary Quinto respectively) but the J.J. Abrams-directed version may well ensure that the sci-fi classic lives and prospers for generations to come.

BERNARD LACHANCE
LORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

2 Bernard Lachance
ARTIST You could call him Paul Potts (or Susan Boyle, if you will) a la Quebec. The struggling Canadian singer posted a YouTube video asking Oprah Winfrey and her friend, Gayle King, to attend one of his concerts. Impressed by the online invitation, Winfrey asked Lachance to record a song (The Impossible Dream in both English and French) for her show. The performance, which aired Tuesday night, brought tears to many eyes.

3 21st Century Breakdown


ALBUM The grand gesture is alive and well. For their latest album (due next Friday), California punk rockers Green Day have cranked up their operatic ambitions to 11 with a three-act storyline and '70s bombast. If early reports are to be believed, Breakdown's poised to top American Idiot, the band's previous album, in both sales and acclaim.

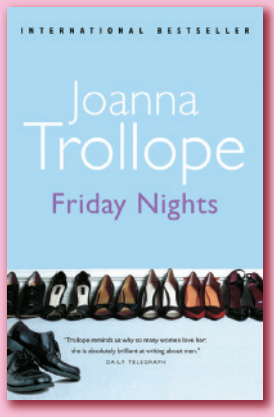
4 Billy Elliot
MUSICAL The stage adaptation of the Oscar-nominated British film about a coal miner's son who dreams of being a dancer bagged 15 Tony nominations this week. Canadians can be proud — Montreal-born David Alvarez, 14, is one of three rotating stars who play the musical's title role.

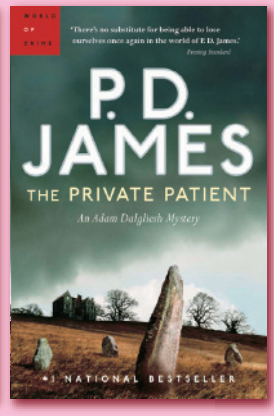
5 1,000 Awesome Things
BLOG This bouyant website (1000awesomethings.com) run by Toronto's Neil Parischa has created so much buzz that New York publisher William Morris Agency wants to turn the postings into a book. This week, the 29-year-old human resources worker also won a Webby award for best personal/cultural blog.

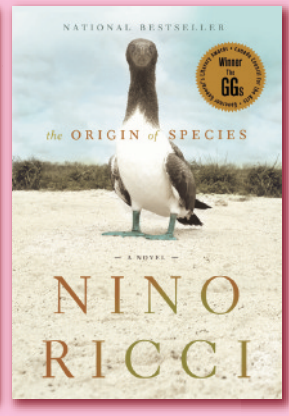
6 Ben Southall
PEOPLE You may be putting in 14-hour shifts just to put food on the table these days but for the next six months, this British charity worker will get paid top dollars just to sit back, relax and blog about an Australian beach paradise. The 34-year-old was selected from 35,000 global applicants for the much-touted "best job in the world."

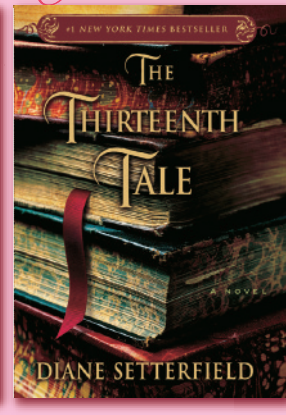
7 The Big Bang Theory
SHOW The geeks shall inherit the earth or, in this case, save the sitcom. The modest show about a group of nerdy physicists and their girl-next-door has picked up the ratings and acclaim in its sophomore run despite all odds, prompting CBS to order two more seasons. The blogosphere's now abuzz with speculation over the season finale, which airs Monday on CTV at 8 p.m.

Mom doesn't need to know how little you spent.









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Beckhams sticking around

It turns out that those reports about the Beckhams moving to Milan were false. Victoria tells Entertainment Tonight that the family is staying put in Los Angeles. "The rumors aren't true. We aren't moving," she says. METRO WORLD NEWS

Examining Media Issues

InDepth

Hockey:
Talk of a possible seventh NHL team coming to Canada this week — with co-CEO of Research In Motion's Jim Balsillie wanting to bring the Phoenix Coyotes to Ontario — likely had a few people reminiscing about Canada's storied game. Here's a primer on Canada and hockey:

- A few years ago, CBC Television unveiled its 10-part documentary series Hockey: A People's History, chronicling all the slapshots and fouls from the game's history. Visit cbc.ca/hockeyhistory for more details. There is also Guy Madden's award-winning My Winnipeg, which includes a chapter on the Winnipeg Jets' history in the Manitoba capital.
- For a lighter hockey experience, rent the classic Paul Newman movie Slap Shot, Rob Lowe's 1986 Youngblood — about a young player trying to get the attention of hockey scouts — or Luck, about a down-on-his-luck Canadian who takes to gambling during the Canada-Russia hockey series in 1972. The series is also highlighted in the two-part CBC miniseries called Canada Russia 72.
- Musically, The Tragically Hip's song Fireworks also touches on the '72 series and the eruption that took place after Paul Henderson's "goal that everyone remembers." And no hockey list would be complete without Stompin' Tom's The Hockey Song.
- Roch Carrier's children's book The Hockey Sweater is a classic of Canadian literature, and it's National Film Board cartoon-version has been seen by kids and adults for decades. Only a story about hockey could double as an allegory for French-English relations.
- Hockey in art? You bet. Graeme Patterson, a 2009 Sobey Art Award finalist, has used hockey in a number of his sculptures. They including Hockey Organ — a souped-up rod-hockey game where instead of pulling rods to make the players move, you press organ keys, which in turn play music — and Ten Point Game — a sculptural/video installation highlighting Darryl Sittler's 10 point game in 1976. Visit graemepatterson.com

METRO NEWS SERVICES

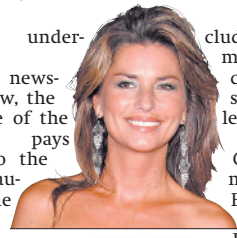
Shania is Hello! beauty queen

In its inaugural "most beautiful" ranking, Hello! Canada has honoured country singer Shania Twain with the title of Canada's Most Beautiful Woman.

"Pop-country singing sensation Shania Twain, 43, is self-effacing when it comes to her undeniable beauty," says the magazine.

"I don't think I'm ugly, I just think I'm overrated on the cutie factor," she says. But for the stunner, who has been the face of the cosmetic giant Revlon, feeling good is the key to looking great. "I like to feel like a woman," she says. "I feel sexy in a plain white T-shirt with nothing underneath."

"I don't think I'm ugly, I just think I'm overrated on the cutie factor."
Shania Twain



On newsstands now, the new issue of the magazine pays tribute to the most beautiful the country has to offer — including TV and movie stars, politicians, royalty, musicians and athletes.

Some other Canadians who made Hello's Most Beautiful list include Dr. Ruby Dhalla, Kiefer Sutherland, Kim Cattrall, Evangeline Lilly, The Four Tenors, and 90210 stars Shenae Grimes, Jessica Lowdes, Dustin Milligan and Jason Priestley.

- For more, pick up Hello!'s 50 Most Beautiful Canadians, on newsstands now. hellomagazine.com

HELLO! Canada

Hello! Canada is now on newsstands. For more information, visit **hellomagazine.ca**

Wolverine's Canadian, who knew?

MOVIES A funny thing happened to Wolverine on his way to box office supremacy last weekend: His Canadian origins became a punchline for reviewers.

X-men Origins: Wolverine, starring Hugh Jackman as the Canadian mutant hero, survived mediocre reviews to gross more than $85 million US and critics seemed to find the brooding character's Canuck background irresistible.

"A grouchy, sensitive loner with retractable metal claws and apparently unretractable facial hair, Wolverine brooded and growled through the first three X-Men pictures," writes A.O. Scott in the New York Times. "And now X-Men Origins: Wolverine … helps explain just what makes this guy so intriguing and unusual. He's Canadian."

"X-Men Origins: Wolverine … helps explain just what makes this guy so intriguing and unusual. He's Canadian."
A.O. Scott of the New York Times

Hollywood Reporter critic Kirk Honeycutt writes: "Six years later, Logan (Jackman) is a lumberjack in a remote Canadian forest, though the film never clarifies whether becoming Canadian represents another mutation."

Grady Hendrix's take on Slate.com, subtitled "How a ridiculous Canadian mutant conquered the world," examines the character's origins as a "mostly Canadian caricature." But he manages a compliment for our homegrown hero. "Like all wildly successful figures in American entertainment, Wolverine is a Canadian."

Initially many fanboys worried that Wolverine's Canadian background would be left out of the American-made films. So how does Wolverine fare in terms of Canadian-ness? Probably the most definitive point is when Col. William Stryker attempts to lure him back into a violent secret strike force, saying, "Your country needs you." Wolverine turns him down, responding: "I'm Canadian."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Fashion Show takes over for Project Runway

BRAVO It's the fashion statement of the year: Bravo's new reality series The Fashion Show is not — repeat, not — a knockoff of the recently decamped Bravo show (now at Lifetime) Project Runway.

But sometimes, it's hard to tell. First, look at the facts: Fashion has two hosts, designer Isaac Mizrahi and musician Kelly Rowland (formerly of Destiny's Child). They both harangue a gaggle of designers racing through challenges small (design a "little black dress" from a black T-shirt in an hour) to big (pick a "must-have" and design five outfits around it while working in a group). At show's end, those outfits are judged, and a contestant must leave.

That probably sounds familiar, but it's amid the fine stitching that subtle differences emerge. Fashion takes itself far more seriously than did Runway, and a certain je ne sais quois is lost in the translation. The show, the contestants and even the judges (who have almost no chemistry) are almost entirely without flair. Fashion plods through the paces but never seems to gather momentum, and there's little spontaneity or true clash of creative wills: The contestants just seem to get on one another's nerves.

On the other hand, examining fashion with a more serious attitude leads to informative, interesting discussions.

The runway segment of Fashion puts outfitted models on display before a room full of industry leaders, and producers seek out feedback from top names. During the runway examination, contestants provide a play-by-play on their fashions; later, when called on the carpet, they're articulate and insightful as to their design motivations and theories. In those moments, Fashion raises the bar for fashion reality.

Fashion is no Runway, though they're cut from the same cloth. Denying that they are is like pretending Pepsi is different from Coke. Sure, there are variations in the piquant aroma and fizz, but ultimately, you're still getting a soda.

And for Runway fans thirsty for fashion fights and fits, Fashion is certainly worth a taste.

REUTERS

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Saturday Mainly sunny 16°/ 8°
Sunday Rain 90% 15°/ 9°
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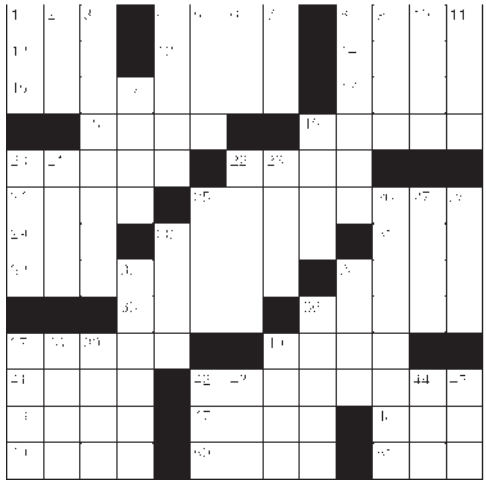
Take Five



Crossword across

1 Volcano output
4 One of the Three Bears
8 Slaughter of baseball lore
12 Story of a lifetime?
13 Scratches (out)
14 Anger
15 In the attic, maybe
17 Anger
18 At bat, so to speak
19 Seraglio group
20 Thick chunks
22 Be patient
24 Senate employee
25 Pirates
29 Luau musicmaker
30 Conficker et al.
31 Extinct bird
32 Gives up hope
34 Urban pall
35 Pre-swan
36 "All in the Family" spin-off
37 Shackles a perp
40 Have coming
41 "Yeah, right!"
42 Runs a meeting with someone else
46 Gilpin of "Frasier"
47 Initial stake
48 Menagerie
49 Paradise
50 Indigent
51 Grown-up elver

Crossword down

1 Dhabi preceder
2 Try the tea
3 Abductees
4 Bosc and Bartlett
5 Related
6 Apiece
7 Fool
8 Proofreader's finds
9 Depilatory brand
10 Eyeball
11 Appear
16 Brits' subway
19 Greet the villain
20 Tater
21 Baikal, for one
22 Fret
23 Weaponry
25 Form rings
26 Vaccinate
27 Crucifix
28 Parsley partner?
30 Witty ones
33 Short-necked seabird
34 Poet Teasdale
36 "Real Time With Bill —"
37 Part of a Batsuit
38 Secondhand
39 Conflagration
40 Prefix with plasm
42 Upper limit
43 Yoko of music
44 Shad delicacy
45 Scale member

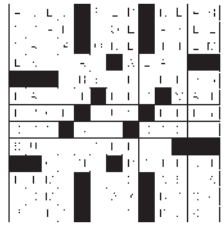
Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

1								7
	9	5				2	1	
			1	4	9			
		9	7	8	3	5		
6	8						4	9
		7	9	6	4	8		
			5	1	7			
	2	6				1	5	
4								8

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



3	9	2	6	1	5	8	7	4
7	8	6	9	4	3	2	1	5
1	4	5	7	8	2	6	9	3
9	7	3	2	5	6	4	8	1
5	2	1	4	3	8	7	6	9
8	6	4	1	7	9	5	3	2
6	1	9	8	2	4	3	5	7
4	5	7	3	6	1	9	2	8
2	3	8	5	9	7	1	4	6

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Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Stuffed Rissoles

INGREDIENTS:
1 lb (500 g) lean ground beef
3.8-oz (110-g) bottle or package hamburger seasoning mix
1 tbsp (15 ml) Worcestershire sauce
1 tbsp (15 ml) tomato sauce
salt and freshly ground black pepper
1/2 cup (125 ml) grated cheddar
1 tbsp (15 ml) canola oil

TO SERVE:
Tomato sauce

METHOD:
1. Put meat, hamburger seasoning, Worcestershire sauce, tomato sauce and salt and freshly ground black pepper into bowl. Knead mixture until well combined. Cover with plastic wrap and let stand 5–10 minutes.
2. Divide mixture into four; shape each portion into flat patty. Using thumb, make deep hole in centre of each patty, taking care not to push all the way through.
3. Place a quarter of cheese into centre of each patty, then mould meat over to cover cheese. If necessary, press flat.
4. Heat oil in large frying pan. Add patties and cook over moderate heat until cooked through, 5–7 minutes per side. Serve with tomato sauce.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Don't take a man's stupid statement personally. It is possible to defeat your own purpose. There's a pattern within chaos.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A girl can help with a romance. Rest assured that something will work out well. Give someone the right idea.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
A grovelling person is hampered by fear. Decide where to go at the last minute. A late night chat will fix a threatened project.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Refuse to accept a controversial decision. A merry visitor gives you second thoughts. Pay attention to exceptional dreams.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
A miserable woman accuses others of being superficial. Be open enough to spend time hanging out. A sensitive man gives in after a standoff.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
An irrelevant lecture can be avoided. Comfort the lonely and lay on the compliments. A mature friend treats you to a thrilling surprise.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Be merciful toward an awkward guy. A secret dialogue will make matters worse. Trivial chitchat is inadequate for your needs.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Delightful expectations will make you too excited. Annoying people should be avoided. Ask yourself who will come to your rescue.

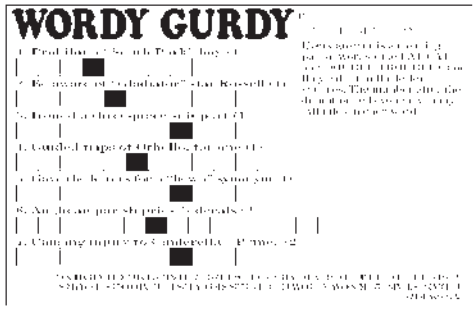
SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Take stock before making a decision. Joyous events create closure in a troubling issue. Take it easy when you're self-conscious.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
An obnoxious idiot comes charging in. Vengeance can't mend a broken heart. Be discreet about a previous decision.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
A reliable friend will reveal surprising info. Wild passion overwhelms a discussion. Remembering a recent encounter is counter-productive.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A tongue-lashing leads to an uncomfortable scene. Use self-control with an indignant woman. It's not a good idea to start a new venture.

WORDY GURDY



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Panettiere plans parenthood

Hayden Panettiere doesn't want to be a young mother. The 19-year-old actress would love a large brood — but says she'll wait to start it until she's old enough to cope with the demands of parenthood. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Celebrity Buzz

'I won't know this world without her'

GETTY IMAGES

TRUE LOVE In an exclusive interview with People, an emotional and often teary-eyed Ryan O'Neal spoke for the first time about the devastating illness of his longtime partner, Farrah Fawcett, who has battled cancer for the past two and a half years.

"It's a love story. I just don't know how to play this one. I won't know this world without her," O'Neal, 68, says of his current role as caretaker. "Cancer is an insidious enemy."

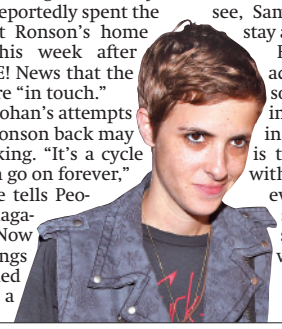
O'Neal also revealed for the first time how the anal cancer long ago spread to other parts of Fawcett's body, including her liver.

"She stays in bed now. The doctors see that she is comfortable. Farrah is on IVs, but some of that is for nourishment," he explains. "The treatment has pretty much ended."

Fawcett, 62, herself tells of her journey through illness in Farrah's Story a two-hour NBC documentary she shot with pal Alana Stewart that airs May 15.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Heart yes, mind no: Sam



INDECISION Lindsay Lohan and Samantha Ronson may be reconciling, sources say. Lohan reportedly spent the night at Ronson's home early this week after telling E! News that the two were "in touch."

And Lohan's attempts to get Ronson back may be working. "It's a cycle that can go on forever," a source tells People magazine. "Now that things have died down a little and Lindsay is behaving herself and showing Sam what she wants to see, Sam's strength to stay away eases up."

But the source adds that Ronson is still resisting. "Sam knows in her head, life is truly better off without Lindsay — even if her heart sometimes says otherwise."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sarah Jessica's surrogate claims wild past

IS THAT HEREDITARY? Michelle Ross, the woman reportedly serving as a surrogate mother for Matthew Broderick and Sarah Jessica Parker, has a bit of a wild past, according to Star magazine.

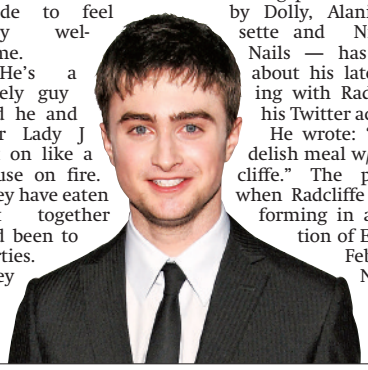
Her ex-husband, Joe Erker, tells the magazine that Ross is bisexual — and even has a tattoo on her wrist proclaiming it.

Ross herself even admitted that she has a bit of wild side.

"I have had pink hair and tattoos and spiked collars," Ross tells the magazine. "My favourite shoes are five-inch black spike heels, which lace up the front."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Dan's new drag queen BFF



UNLIKELY PAIR Daniel Radcliffe has befriended a drag queen, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Harry Potter star has been spotted enjoying several dinners with Our Lady J, a transvestite Dolly Parton impersonator he met in New York last year.

The pair was photographed walking arm-in-arm on Sunday, and the 19-year-old actor is believed to have formed a close bond with his new pal.

A close friend of Our Lady J told Britain's The Sun newspaper: "Daniel is fascinated by the drag culture and is always asking questions. He went to a few shows and was made to feel very welcome.

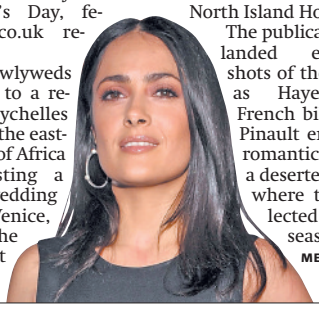
"He's a lovely guy and he and Our Lady J got on like a house on fire. They have eaten out together and been to parties. They have become quite close."

Our Lady J — who makes a living performing songs by Dolly, Alanis Morissette and Nine Inch Nails — has boasted about his latest meeting with Radcliffe on his Twitter account.

He wrote: "Just had delish meal w/Dan Radcliffe." The pair met when Radcliffe was performing in a production of Equus last February in New York.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hayek's honeymoon



BELATED ROMANCE Salma Hayek and her new husband Francois-Henri Pinault have finally found time for a romantic honeymoon — almost three months after they wed on Valentine's Day, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The newlyweds jetted off to a remote Seychelles island off the eastern coast of Africa after hosting a belated wedding party in Venice, Italy, at the end of last month.

According to In Touch magazine, the couple landed at Mahe airport in the Seychelles on April 26 and chartered a helicopter to North Island, where they checked into the exclusive North Island Hotel.

The publication has landed exclusive shots of the couple as Hayek and French billionaire Pinault enjoyed a romantic walk on a deserted beach, where they collected seashells.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Courtney's claws come out

HOLD A GRUDGE Courtney Love has launched a scathing attack on newlyweds Ryan Adams and Mandy Moore in a bizarre online rant, femalefirst.co.uk reports

The former Hole frontwoman fell out with Adams last year, accusing him of failing to pay back money he borrowed to fund his 2003 album Rock N Roll.

Even though the rocker denied the claims, Love still holds a grudge — and has used her myspace.com page to blast the singer and his new wife Mandy Moore.

She writes, "Christ ugh igh ugh Mandy Moore ick. The thought of her sticking her tongue down that filthy hatch. I might as well go watch (gory movie) Hostel. Smelly ass, ick. I LOATHE that guy (Adams)."

Love's blog also listed Adams as one of the people she would like to punch if given the chance adding, "People I would hit if I saw them: Ryan Adams." METRO NEWS SERVICES

MJ sued by own spokeswoman

SOME LOYALTY Michael Jackson is facing more legal trouble, this time from within his own camp. His spokesperson Raymone Bain is suing him $44 million owed for her work, according to Hollyscoop. "Mr. Jackson has elected not to honour the financial obligations of our contractual relationship, despite my numerous attempts to amicably resolve this matter," Bain said.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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Tough going on the Gosselin home front
Jon Gosselin of Jon and Kate Plus Eight admits he's going through a tough time at home right now, but tells fans he's been faithful to his wife. "These allegations are false and just plain hurtful," he said in a statement. PEOPLE.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Head-butting has its consequences

PROBATION PROBLEM Kiefer Sutherland was charged with assault after he allegedly head-butted a man at a party in New York on Tuesday, but authorities in Los Angeles may come down harder on him, people.com.

Sutherland, who's currently serving a five-year probation term in Los Angeles for his second DUI conviction, may have violated those terms, which clearly state the actor must "obey all laws."

Sutherland — who surrendered to police yesterday — allegedly came to the defence of actress Brooke Shields after Jack McCollough reportedly bumped into Shields.

"Our office intends to contact the NYPD and New York prosecutors to review the incident and determine whether Mr. Sutherland violated probation," L.A. City Attorney spokesman Frank Mateljan tells People.

A probation violation often means a return to jail. Sutherland previously spent 48 days in jail on his second DUI conviction.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Legal loophole for Chris?

LEGAL EAGLE Chris Brown's legal team is on the move, people.com reports.

The singer's lawyer, Mark Geragos, filed a request in a Los Angeles court Wednesday seeking access to LAPD records, arguing that photos of Rihanna's injuries, allegedly at Brown's hand — widely distributed on the Web — was "illegally leaked to the media" by police and may result in a case dismissal, radaronline.com reports.

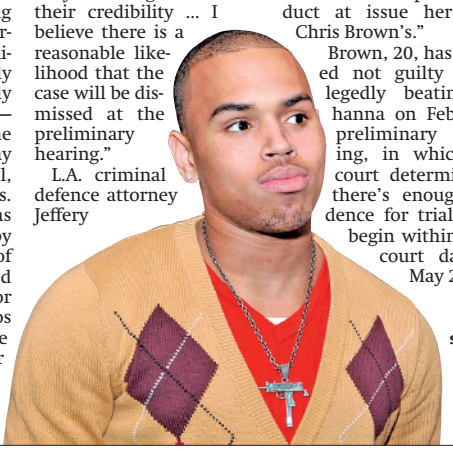
"The photograph was immediately viewed by hundreds of thousands of viewers and was displayed on every news channel for several weeks," Geragos states. "The purpose of the leak was necessarily for profit and to vilify Mr. Brown and poison the potential jury pool."

Geragos adds that if LAPD records show "dishonest conduct" by its officers, "I intend to use such evidence at the preliminary hearing to attack their credibility ... I believe there is a reasonable likelihood that the case will be dismissed at the preliminary hearing."

L.A. criminal defence attorney Jeffery Rubenstein, who's not involved in the case, says, "It's unlikely the judge will dismiss the case on the grounds of leaked evidence. It's not police conduct at issue here, it's Chris Brown's."

Brown, 20, has pleaded not guilty to allegedly beating Rihanna on Feb. 8. A preliminary hearing, in which the court determines if there's enough evidence for trial, is to begin within eight court days of May 28.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Keira's face time with a web cam

MODERN ROMANCE Keira Knightley and her boyfriend Rupert Friend use web cameras to keep their relationship alive, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actor — who has been dating Knightley since they starred together in 2005's Pride and Prejudice — admits it is difficult to be apart when they are working on different film projects, so the pair have come up with a modern way to keep in contact.

When asked how he and Keira make their relationship work, Rupert told bangshowbiz.com: "We use Skype."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Friends reunion ahead?

TV THROWBACK It's been five years since Friends went off the air, so what's up with that much-talked about reunion? usmagazine.com asks

"(Fans) do want to know that all the time," Jennifer Aniston said, according to MTV News. "I don't think (producers will do one), and if they do, they should hurry up."

While Aniston is game for reuniting Ross and Rachel, she just doesn't want them to be senior citizens.

"Well, it's been off the air, but you also don't want it to be that reunion show or movie where you see — like when the Brady Bunch had a reunion and they were old," she said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Valerie cheers Kirstie on

FAT FRIENDS? When Kirstie Alley spotted Valerie Bertinelli's killer bikini body on a recent cover of People, "It blew my mind," the TV star says. "She didn't just look good — she looked stunning! It was inspiring."

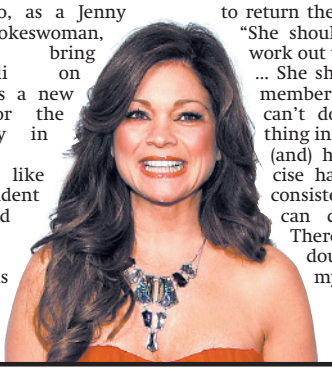
And a little ironic for Alley, who, as a Jenny Craig spokeswoman, helped bring Bertinelli on board as a new face for the company in 2007.

"It's like the student surpassed the teacher, who is now over there in the corner, fat!" says Alley.

Nonsense, Bertinelli tells People. Alley's weight gain "is just a bump in the road," Bertinelli says. She still considers Alley "a mentor and a motivator. She's part of the reason I've come this far."

And Bertinelli is happy to return the favour: "She should come work out with me ... She should remember you can't do everything in one day (and) her exercise has to be consistent. She can do this. There's no doubt in my mind."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Miami paps are crazy: Joel

CELEB E-RANT Joel Madden and Nicole Richie had a run-in with paparazzi outside a Miami airport that startled his daughter, Harlow, so much, he had to speak out. "These guys were sticking flashes in her face and bumping in to us and yelling. The most unnecessary force I've ever seen," Madden posted on his Twitter, adding later, "It was the first time I've ever seen my child scared. Not cool for any parent to see. At least in L.A. they gave us some space."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Renée takes acting hiatus

SELF-DISCOVERY Renée Zellweger is taking a break from acting.

"I'm working on getting bored, and it's really hard," she tells Glamour. "I'm taking time to figure out where I want to go and what I want to do next."

She says that a busy work schedule has stopped her from really learning about herself. "I am determined to sit still long enough to get past the existential crap of the moment," she says.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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Seoul & Gyeongju — FROM **$2172** taxes & fees included

INCLUDES accom, transportation, some meals, select sightseeing tours and admission fees on this 5-night guided tour of Seoul & Gyeongju. **HIGHLIGHTS** Folk Museum, DMZ Tour, Ginseng Centre, Bulkuksa Temple, Sugguram Grotto, Gyeongju National Museum and more. **ADD** roundtrip airfare to Seoul with Korean Air from $749 (taxes $205).

Korea 9-Day Sparkling Tour — FROM **$2625** taxes & fees included

INCLUDES accom, transportation, some meals, select sightseeing tours and admission fees on this 9-day guided tour of Korea's many UNESCO World Heritage site. **VISIT** Seoul, Jeju Island, Busan, Daegu, Gyeongju, Haeinsa, Andong, Gangneung & Mt Seoaraksan. **ADD** roundtrip airfare to Seoul with Korean Air from $749 (taxes $205).

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Cayo Coco 4-Star — FROM **$685** + taxes & fees $229

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Varadero 4-Star — FROM **$710** + taxes & fees $229

INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom.

Punta Cana 4-Star — FROM **$833** + taxes & fees $325

INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom.

Costa Rica 4-Star — FROM **$1075** + taxes & fees $194

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Thailand — FROM **$689** + local payment USD250

INCLUDES all accom, transportation, some meals, tour leader and local guides on this 14-day small group tour exploring Tribal Thailand. **HIGHLIGHTS** Bangkok, River Kwai, Ayuthaya, Chiang Mai, hilltribe trek, Golden Triangle, Chiang Rai, elephant ride and bamboo river rafting.

Belize & Guatemala Hummingbird Highway — FROM **$949** + local payment USD250

INCLUDES all accom, transportation, some meals, tour leader and local guides on this 14-day small group tour exploring Belize & Guatemala. **HIGHLIGHTS** Tikal, Flores, San Ignacio, Caye Caulker, Belize City, Mayan ruins, jungle hikes and the 2nd longest barrier reef in the world.

Africa Victoria Falls to Cape Town — FROM **$1539** + local payment USD400

INCLUDES all accom, transportation, most meals, tour leader and local guides on this 21-day small group tour from Victoria Falls to Cape Town exploring south western Africa. **HIGHLIGHTS** game drives, the world's highest sand dunes, bush walking in the Kalahari, wilderness camping, canoeing in the Okavango Delta and the mighty Victoria Falls.

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